THE NEW SUNDAY EXPRESS

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▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM
▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

Weightlifter Mirabai Chanu's silver at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics gives the nation much-needed solace during times of strife

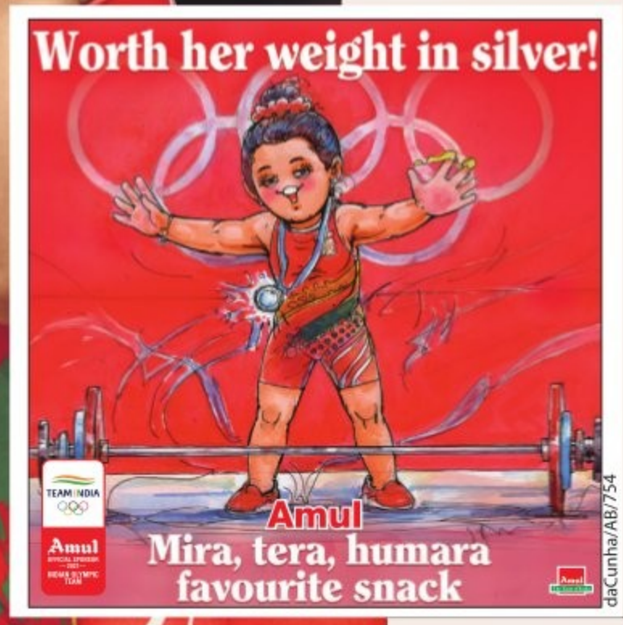
MIRA-CLE LADY

> It was my dream to win an Olympic medal and it came true today. The dream was same in 2016 Olympics but it was not my day in Rio. I learnt a lot from that failure. I changed my training and technique. I decided to work harder and achieve what I missed out on in Rio. I am happy we managed
>
> Mirabai Chanu, silver medalist

MIRABAI'S SIX LIFTS (IN KGs)

SNATCH
✓84 ✓87 ✗89

CLEAN & JERK
✓110 ✓115 ✗117



EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

AT around 12 noon on Saturday, the village of Kakching rejoiced. One of their supremely talented daughters had given India a literal and metaphorical lift at the Tokyo International Forum. She lifted a combined 202kg (more than four times her bodyweight) to win a silver in the 49kg division. It opened India's account on Day 1 of the Games. More importantly, the silver could mean so much to her people and the state of Manipur, a tiny speck in India's Northeast.

Growing up in Manipur, life was never easy for the 26-year-old, who had lifted firewood from a forest near her village, a testimony to the hardships the family had to endure to make a living. Her mother, Tombi Devi, recalls the time her daughter would volunteer to carry the heaviest of bundles even as a child. Introduction to iron and barbells seemed a natural progress.

When she medalled, her parents and extended family were glued to the TV set. Myriad memories flashed by, struggles quietly buried in the euphoria of celebration. Her choice of pursuing weightlifting instead of archery as a child was justified.

Someone who has seen that struggle up close is Kunjarani Devi, a lifter with multiple world championship medals. She had also coached Mirabai during the latter's formative years. "When we go to the platform to lift, we are lifting for our country India and it's a medal for India," she says. Sport is a way of life for Manipuris. "What else do we have? We don't have too many avenues of employment. We don't have big industries. So sports is something that helps us find a job and lead a good life. Even for me, sports has given me the job," said Kunjarani, whose story inspired Mirabai to choose weightlifting over archery.

Mirabai's medal in times of Covid has brought the entire country together. And she will witness that first hand when she visits her village. "I have just been home for five days in the past five years. Now I will go with this medal. I will now go home and eat food made by my mother. I had a chat with her for two minutes. She told me everyone in my village is very happy. I will meet all of them when I go to my village." P15,16

MORE COVERAGE: Starting tonight, back page will be the second Sport page till the Olympics is on. Xplore will be back after the Games. - Editor

Blinken to raise human rights issue during India visit

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THE US on Saturday said issues facing democracy and human rights would be raised during wide-ranging discussions its Secretary of State Antony Blinken would have with Indian leaders during his scheduled New Delhi visit on July 27. Blinken is slated to meet PM Narendra Modi, and later hold discussions with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and National Security Advisor Ajit Doval on various issues. P12

No clear message yet on BSY

ASHWINI M SRIPAD @ Bengaluru

THERE was no clear message from the BJP central leadership even on Saturday, just two days ahead of BS Yediyurappa's government completing two years in office, though some party seniors indicated that the leadership change, which has been the buzzword for the last few days, may not happen in the immediate future. But other sections within the party said the BJP high command could take a decision on Sunday.

Yediyurappa, however, seemed to have resigned his fate to the party decision, saying earlier that he is expecting a message from the high command by this weekend and he would abide by it. But on Monday, he is going ahead with the celebration of completion of two years of his government. An event has been organised at Vidhana Soudha to mark the milestone, where a booklet will be released listing the achievements of his government.

Party sources said that though central leaders seemed keen on leadership change, they are yet to decide on Yediyurappa's successor. Also, they may not take the "risk" of changing the chief minister at a time when thousands of people are displaced by floods. "It may not happen anytime soon," the sources said. The entire administrative machinery has been pressed into action to assist people affected by floods, while the chief minister is rushing to take stock of the situation in Belagavi, which is one of the worst-affected districts in the State. P4

WITH THIS ISSUE

THE OTHER SIDE OF MIDNIGHT

PLUS 12 PAGES MAGAZINE

Prices of med devices drop 90 pc as govt fixes cap

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

FOLLOWING a decision by the Centre to fix trade margins of five categories of medical devices — digital thermometers, glucometers, blood pressure measurement devices, oximeters and nebulizers — 91 per cent brands of these devices have reduced prices by up to 88 per cent.

The trade margins, set by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority under the Union Ministry of Chemical and Fertilizers, have come into effect from July 20.

The government on Saturday said downward revision of MRP has been reported by imported and domestic brands across categories.

There are 684 brands of these five categories of medical devices. Of these, 620 have reduced prices. P12

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our Heartiest Felicitations.
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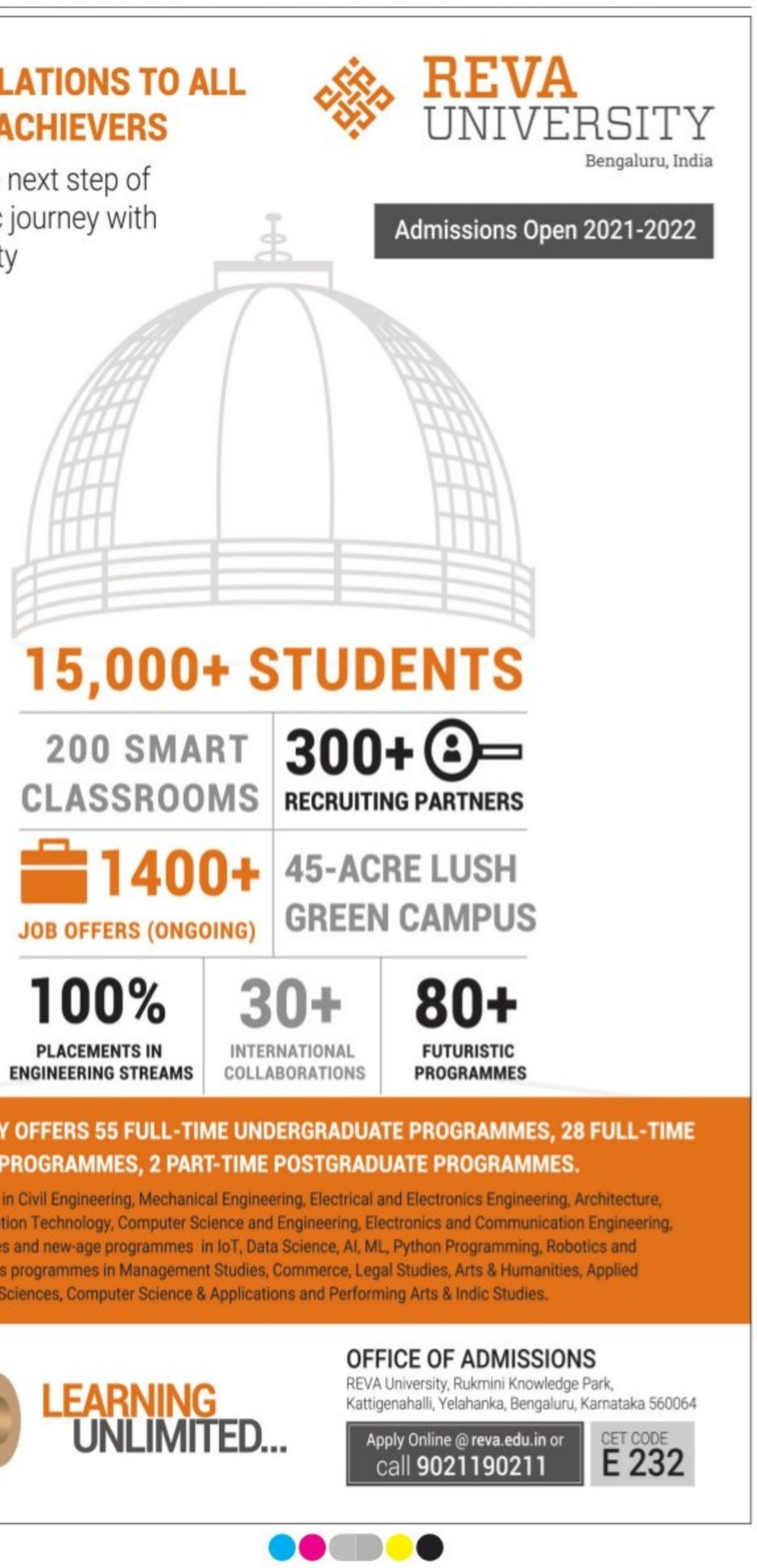
Venue of Dr Rayulu's Birthday Celebrations on
July 25th (Today)
Officers Club, LIC Road, Tirupati
Timing:1.00 pm to 2.00 pm
Dr.P.C. Rayulu
MEMBER: ZRUCC, Scrlys,
Minister of Railways & FCI-Slcc-AP,
Ministry of Consumer Affairs & PDS.Govt.of India,
CHAIRMAN: Kasturba Gandhi Kendra Trust(R)
(Guinness Book of World Records Holder)
Govindaraja Arts College Walker Assn, Tirupati.
PCR GROUP OF COMPANIES - TIRUPATI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THE NEW SUNDAY EXPRESS | BRIGHTSIDE

ALMANAC TODAY
Sunday : 25/07/2021 • Year: Plava • Ayana: Dakshinayana
Ritu: Greeshma • Masa: Ashada • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Prathami 6.18 am
Nakshatra: Shravana 12.49 pm • Moon in Kumbha Rashi • Rahukaala: 04:30 pm to 06:00 pm
Gulikakala: 03:00 pm to 04:30 pm • Yamaganda: 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm

WEATHER
MIN 21°C | MAX 27°C
FORECAST
Showers early. Breaks of sun late

Sunrise 6.03 am
Sunset 6.48 pm
Moonrise 10.10 pm
Moonset 7.02 am

02 BENGALURU | SUNDAY 25.07.2021 | newindianexpress.com

Scenic view of Sulavali village in Joida taluk of Uttara Kannada district | D HEMANTH

JUNGLE EXODUS

Forest dwellers of Joida taluk are moving out of their homes on the range, and relocating in more 'civilised' environs, a migration enabled by the Joida administration, forest division and NGOs

AMIT S UPADHYE @Joida

A slippery ride on a slush track for about 30km off Kumbarwada village in Uttara Kannada district, will take you close to the borders of Goa. Nestling in the lap of nature and located close to the origin of the Kali river, lies Sulavali village.

Sachin Mirashe, a resident and young farmer from Sulavali, admits that his village has the most scenic view in the region, but also lists the scores of hardships the inhabitants live with.

Living inside the forest may fascinate many, but for these families, it's always been a question of life and death. With no bus service or proper road connectivity, the villagers would travel 26 km to reach the main road. Conflict with wild animals and helplessness during emergency medical situations finally convinced them to move out of the forest, under the government's voluntary relocation programme.

"We have the best fish, crab and mushrooms to eat. Many visitors consider this place the most picturesque site in Joida, where one can see the birth of the Kali river. But those who live here lead a tough life, especially during the monsoons. For long, we were feeling disconnected from the outside world. We applied for voluntary relocation with the forest department a year ago, and are now moving to Ramanagar. We have purchased agricultural land and are building a small house," Mirashe said.

Today, about 56 families from this area have moved to different locations in Joida taluk (earlier Supa taluk). This is the first time Kali Tiger Reserve, the largest tiger habitat in Karnataka, has witnessed such mass voluntary relocation in recent years. The process of relocation was also completed in a record time of one year. Foresters says it was team effort by the administration, forest division, NGOs and locals.

"The hamlet consists of two settlements: Gowliwada and Sulavali (locally known as Mirashiwada). Lack of basic amenities like all-season road, electricity, education and health were the deciding factors for them. For every need, they had to come to Kumbarwada or Joida. Last year, the entire hamlet had applied for relocation under the first option of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) relocation package, and each family was compensated Rs 10 lakh each," explained Maria Christu Raja D, Director, Kali Tiger Reserve.

"Approval for relocation from the district-level committee was granted in December 2020. By January, the first instalment payment was given to beneficiaries in the presence of the Chief Conservator of Forests, Canara Circle, Yatish Kumar. With the first instalment of Rs 7 lakh, the beneficiaries were able to purchase land of their choice outside the forest. Once they move out of their hamlets, the remaining Rs 3 lakh will be paid to them," the officer added.

The forest staff of Kali Reserve were in constant touch with the families, helping them with purchase of land, house construction and shifting. "We have tried to make the shift to their new life as easy and natural as possible. The entire forest team worked with the community to help make this movement smooth," he said.

Currently, about 1,000 applications have been received for relocation from Kali Tiger Reserve. Around 25,000 people are living in hamlets in Kali Reserve and buffer area. The division will be taking up these applications, based on availability of funds, on priority.

"Relocation is a poverty eradication programme first, and benefit to wildlife is secondary. Our main aim is to help people living in remote areas have better employment opportunities, financial security and civic amenities, including access to better schools and hospitals. There is no poverty alleviation action to equal relocation, in empowering people living in interior forest areas to choose their lives and utilise the opportunities offered by mainstream society," Raja added.

Wildlife experts are now calling for better management of the area vacated by the beneficiaries. A large chunk of forest land has been added back to Kali Tiger Reserve. The area is considered as the future Source Area for tigers in Central Western Ghats, along with Bhimgad Wildlife Sanctuary and adjoining sanctuary in Goa, from where tigers can disperse to other forest blocks of the landscape.

"Their paddy fields can be left as they are, and will serve as grasslands for herbivores. Unnecessary tree planting, building of guesthouses or any structures should be avoided. There are several tribal settlements in Kali which are in dire need of relocation. The foresters must take up relocation on priority. Though there has been reduction in central funds, Kali Reserve has done a commendable job. The forest department had forwarded a demand before central agencies for mass relocation programme, but the Centre gave only Rs 14 crore. Before such developments hamper the smooth relocation programme, the fund crunch must be addressed at the earliest," suggested a wildlife expert.

Compensation received by each family under relocation package of the National Tiger Conservation Authority: ₹10 lakh

1,000 Applications received for relocation from Kali Tiger Reserve

REBUILDING LIVES WITH SOLAR ENERGY

SELCO Foundation introduces the Solar Kuteer project to help women and the differently-abled who were hit by the lockdown

G SUBASH CHANDRA @Chitradurga

THE Covid-19 pandemic and lockdowns have had a severe impact across the globe, throwing thousands of lives out of gear and bringing financial gloom, causing people emotional, mental and physical stress. Many are still struggling to return to some semblance of stability, especially on the livelihood front.

In such a scenario, Bengaluru-based SELCO Foundation brought a ray of light for people in Davanagere and Chitradurga districts, by introducing the concept of 'Solar Kuteer' (shed), providing solar-powered livelihood solutions.

Mangala, a resident of Nanjayyanakottige in Hiriyur taluk of Chitradurga district, owns a solar-powered photocopy machine that helps her earn nearly Rs 1,000 per day. She also runs a canteen and a grocery shop. In all, her daily income now ranges between Rs 5,000 and Rs 5,500. After losing her husband Srinivas in 2002, Mangala, who owned a small roadside eatery, took the pledge that she would ensure her sons, Ravikiran and Deepak, complete their formal education, and the two lived up to their mother's expectations. Recently, Ravikiran completed B.Com and Deepak is pursuing a bachelor's degree in Commerce.

"My life was at the crossroads during the lockdown and I was struggling to manage my financial challenges. It was then that SELCO Foundation, under the Solar Kuteer project, funded me. It has helped me earn a decent income of Rs 1,000 per day," Mangala told *TNSE*.

The total cost of the project at Nanjayyanakottige was Rs 2.63 lakh, of which the Foundation invested Rs 1.90 lakh, whereas the remaining amount was pumped in by Mangala. Since then, there has been no looking back, as the project has helped her improve her financial status.

Like Mangala, Nittuvalli-based Naghabhushan D's life has also changed, thanks to the Solar Kuteer project. "I was living without a vision; there was no one to help me take up income-generating activities. Luckily, SELCO Foundation came to my rescue and helped me set up a common services centre," says Naghabhushan, who suffers from a spinal cord injury. Today, he earns Rs 300-500 per day, depending on the number of applicants and customers.

"Due to my precision in work and availability, many youngsters wait for me to arrive from Nittuvalli, for job applications and printing documents," he adds. Earlier, Naghabhushan was earning Rs 100-150 a day, and struggling to make ends meet. However, the Foundation's timely intervention helped him improve his economic status. It provided him with a light, fan and the all-weather solar kuteer.

Similarly, HT Yogeshwarachari, a tailor from Hireuda village of Davanagere district, was having a hard time running his tailoring business. After the Foundation gave him a solar-powered motor to operate the sewing machine, Yogeshwarachari, a paraplegic, today earns approximately Rs 400 per day. "Earlier, I used to peddle the machine for my livelihood, but it wasn't easy, and I couldn't complete my orders on time. Ever since I started using the mechanical device, my income has doubled," he says with a smile.

During the lockdown imposed to curb the second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic, Yogeshwarachari stitched masks and sold them to villagers, to make some extra income. Like him, Jayapadma from Davanagere district today earns between Rs 200 and Rs 400 a day, after SELCO gave her a sewing machine that operates on solar-powered motor. Until recently, Jayapadma, who suffered a spinal cord injury in 2004, was sitting idle.

Apart from initiating the Solar Kuteer project during the lockdown, SELCO also provided a solar rope-making machine to 24 ropemakers of Patrehalli village — mostly inhabited by the Banjara community. Along with the machine, the Foundation also gave them coir worth Rs 4,000 each. The project has helped them earn Rs10,000 to Rs 15,000 per month, informed Kumar, one of the beneficiaries.

Manjunath Bhagwath, head of SELCO Foundation in Chitradurga and Davanagere, said that SELCO has been funding such projects for the uplift of marginalised populations. With a nominal amount from the beneficiary, the Foundation ensures that the latter "feel responsible towards their work". The projects were implemented in association with organisations that work for women and differently-abled citizens.

Women of Patrehalli village make coir ropes using a solar rope-making machine provided by SELCO

Mangala in front of her grocery shop at Nanjayyanakottige village, Hiriyur taluk | EXPRESS

My life was at the crossroads during the lockdown and I was struggling to manage my financial challenges. It was then that SELCO Foundation, under the Solar Kuteer project, funded me. It has helped me earn a decent income of Rs 1,000 per day

— Mangala

₹ 2.63L

Total cost of the project at Nanjayyanakottige. While SELCO invested Rs 1.90 lakh, the rest was borne by Mangala

DOORS OPEN

All places of worship to open from today

ENS @Bengaluru

ALL places of worship in the state can open up from Sunday. In an order on Saturday, N Manjunath Prasad, Principal Secretary to the Revenue Department, Revenue Department (Disaster Management), and Member-Secretary State Executive Committee, said that temples, mosques, churches, gurudwaras and other religious places have been allowed to open by strictly following the Covid protocols and standard operating procedures.

However, jathras, temple festivals, processions and congregations will continue to be prohibited.

PARKING POLICY 2.0 TO COVER MORE ROADS IN CITY

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

THE problem of willy-nilly parking and the question of where to park vehicles will soon be addressed as the Department of Urban Land Transport (DULT) is set to come out with parking policy 2.0.

During the lockdown, DULT officials had chalked out the draft of where parking should be restricted and where permitted. Now field surveys are being done to finalise their blueprint.

Earlier, the parking plan was prepared for 85 roads and it was approved by the government. The policy 2.0 has also been approved. There will be a revision in base parking rates, area-wise, when compared to what has been already been approved by the government, officials from the Urban Development Department told *TNSE*.

"The new policy is for other roads apart from the 85 already listed. It will be introduced in stages. To start with, the policy will cover prime commercial spaces, after which it will be introduced in residential areas. This is because a more detailed study and ward-wise action plan needs to be prepared," DULT Commissioner V Manjula said.

The DULT is also working on meetings with the BBMP zonal commissioners and the zonal task force to discuss the parking policy and its implementation. The government is also working on how a public consultation meeting can be held.

In the new policy, the department is working on how parking can be restricted on roads through designated parking zones and small pockets. Officials pointed out that parking was easier to regulate in commercial spaces as there are many options - alternate days, streets and sides of the road, utilising existing terminals and commercial spaces. But this is difficult in residential areas where people have more vehicles than parking spaces. Moreover, there are mixed zones and very few true residential areas.

To start with, the policy will cover prime commercial spaces, after which it will be introduced in residential areas. This is because a more detailed study and ward-wise action plan needs to be prepared

V Manjula, DULT Commissioner

GUIDING LIGHT

Buddhist monks enjoy lunch after celebrating Guru Poornima at Mohabodhi Society in Bengaluru on Saturday. The day is observed by Buddhists, Hindus and Jains every year to honour teachers, gurus and spiritual guides | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Nandi Hills parched, water to be pumped up

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

NANDI Hills, believed to be the origin of five rivers, is facing a water crisis, worrying not just locals, but also the government and experts. So much so that now the government is planning to draw treated water from Bengaluru to replenish the lake at the foothills and pump it to the hilltop.

"Around Rs 1-1.5 crore will be invested to get water to the hill top. It is strange that the hilltop and the foothills are facing water shortage, despite there being a kalyani at the former and a lake down below. Drinking water is needed and so it has been decided to draw treated water from Bengaluru," Tourism and Environment Minister C P Yogeeshwara told *The New Sunday Express*.

Experts and locals blamed the government for this state of affairs and for still not realising the importance of the eco-sensitive region. Expert A N Yellappa Reddy noted that Nandi Hills is the origin of five rivers – Arkavathy, Kumudavathi, Papigini, Palar and Pennar. "Since the region has been devastated because of mining, blasting, stone crushing, deforestation, rapid urbanisation and commercial activities, the hilltop is now water-starved. After polluting the water bodies, treating it and then pumping it to the hilltop is amusing," Reddy rued.

He said that the government should create wetlands around the lake at the foothills and clear all encroachments around the origin points and the flow channels, which will resolve the issue.

TWO YEARS OF TRANSFORMATION

2 Years of Pro-People Governance

ERA OF PROGRESS ✦ AMIDST CHALLENGES

THE NEW SUNDAY EXPRESS

CHANGE THAT LASTS

SINCE THE BEGINNING OF HIS POLITICAL JOURNEY, B. S. YEDIYURAPPA HAD THE FORESIGHT TO DREAM THE IMPOSSIBLE DREAM, TREAD THE UNIMAGINABLE PATH, AND TO EXPLORE HORIZONS WHERE ONLY THE BRAVE DARE TO GO...ALL WITH ONE MISSION, TO ELEVATE THE STATE OF KARNATAKA. IN THE LAST TWO YEARS, HE HAS EMBARKED ON SEVERAL MISSIONS AND BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN REALISING HIS DREAMS

Jala Nigam director's board meeting presided by B S Yediyurappa.

His inspiring life journey to the Office of Chief Minister began from a small village in Mandya district. Born in an ordinary family with a humble economic background and with no 'politically illustrious' names among his kin, Bookanakere Siddalingappa Yediyurappa has evolved as a popular leader with his sheer perseverance, zealous efforts, untiring hard work and genuine commitment and concern for the common man.

As described by his close friends, party leaders and workers, he is proactive 24x7. He is indeed a people's leader in the real sense of the word. It is only because of Yediyurappa's meticulous planning, approach and sincere efforts that BJP in Karnataka has evolved as a 'cadre-based mass party' and has come to power with him as the Chief Minister.

He ensured that the party was strengthened, geographically and socially. It is the result of his untiring efforts that BJP – which was once dismissed as urban-based, elitist , upper-caste North-Indian Party – came to power in the state twice by drawing strength from all the sections of society, especially farmers. BJP came into existence on April 6, 1980. The party came to power for the first time in 2008. For these 28 years, BJP expanded its electoral base, strengthened the party at various rungs of social setup, enthused its cadres and took up people's issues to carve a niche for itself. Yediyurappa's firm conviction was that BJP should maintain equidistance from both the Congress and Janata Parivar in the tri-polar polity in Karnataka. He ensured that BJP took up people's issues and fought the elections without having any truck with any party, except in 1999.

BJP's victory in 2008 and 2018 is not a mere fluke. The victory is due to the service and sacrifice of lakhs of workers and thousands of leaders since the days of Jana Sangh, and Yediyurappa continued that tradition of struggling for the people's cause. All the leaders at the national level have been observing the manner in which Yediyurappa has enabled BJP to come to power in Karnataka. BJP is impressed by his inputs to strengthen the party when he was working as the national vice-president of the party.

Yediyurappa has always handled organisational and governmental matters in a professional and deft manner. India and the world faced an unprecedented crisis in the form of Covid-19. Karnataka did exceptionally well in handling the crisis under the dynamic and robust leadership of Yediyurappa.

It was Yediyurappa who decided to announce a lockdown of all cinema theatres, malls, shopping complexes as a first step in our fight against the coronavirus. He planned meticulously and enthused the party cadre to supplement the government's efforts.

Yediyurappa showed political acumen when several MLAs from Congress and JDS quit their respective parties by admitting them to BJP after taking the Central leadership into confidence.

The fine balance he has struck in managing the needs of the newcomers and old-timers shows his sense of professionalism and fair approach.

He has met several leaders at the state and national level to quicken the pace of development in Karnataka.

Recently, he met Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in New Delhi and talked various issues including indigenous aerospace and defence manufacturing ecosystem in Karnataka. He also called on BJP National President J P Nadda to discuss various matters including further strengthening the party's prospects in Karnataka ahead of the 2023 elections.

DEPARTMENT OF MINOR IRRIGATION

Navigating Through Tough Waterways

AGRICULTURE is the primary occupation of most of Karnataka's rural people. And this sector has been the worst hit by drought in the recent past. The Department of Minor Irrigation and Groundwater Development plays a major role in navigating through these difficult times as constructing major irrigation systems becomes impractical.The various works of the department include constructing new lakes and pickups, modernising existing lakes, constructing barrages and check dams, Shadoof irrigation projects, the Paschimavahini project and Atal Bhoojala project.

All these projects aim at creating sustainable water resources in alignment with replenishing groundwater and respecting natural resources.

Several projects have been undertaken, and approved by the farmer-friendly government under the able leadership of B S Yediyurappa.

HIGHLIGHTS OF FLAGSHIP PROGRAMMES

Replenishing and refilling of lakes of Chikkanayakanahalli and Tiptur taluk, Tumakuru district, for which Rs 430 crore has been approved for the FY 2020-21. A total amount of Rs 457 crore has been approved for FY 2020-21 for underground water development and refilling of lakes in Maski taluk, Raichur district.

Apart from the new projects, an extra boost is given to in-progress projects. Some of the key programmes include directing treated wastewater of Bengaluru city to lakes in Chintamani taluk, Bengaluru Rural, Chikkaballapur and other places.

Expediting the construction of a new lake in Mandya district and constructing pickups and for micro irrigation with a budget of

Rs 81 crores

STATE EXCISE DEPARTMENST

When Money Matters

EXCISE is an important department that generates revenue to the state exchequer. Though developmental projects do not come under its purview, it is one of the largest revenue-earning departments to facilitate various developmental projects.

The department generates optimal revenue by regulating the manufacture, transport, possession, sale and other activities in the trade of spirit, spirituous preparations, potable liquor and other intoxicants and by monitoring the collection of related taxes.

Its objective is to also regulate manufacture, transport, possession and sale of all excisable articles as well as to control crime through effective enforcement and inspection. The department imparts training for better efficiency and formulates e-governance initiatives.

FUNCTIONS

- Collection of excise revenue.
- Issuing licences for manufacture, transport, possession and sale of all excisable articles.
- Conduct inspections of licensed premises, raids and road watches regularly.
- Review performance at regular intervals.
- Training of officers and staff.
- Verification of EVCs and permits.
- Registration, investigation and prosecution of cases.
- To monitor transaction of all excisable articles.
- Computerisation of departmental activities.

Collection of Excise Revenue

The state government has fixed Rs 22,700 crore as the target to collect revenue for the year 2020-21. The excise department has collected (between April 2020 and March 2021) Rs 23,332.10 crore revenue in the year. This is a 102.78 per cent achievement.

The department has achieved 8.10 per cent growth in the year 2019-20 by collecting Rs 1,748.15 crore more than the revenue collected in the year 2020-21.

The state government has fixed a target of Rs 24,580 crore for the year 2021-22. The excise department has achieved 24.22 per cent of the target by collecting Rs 5,954.07 crore from April to June 2021. It has achieved a growth of 55.41 per cent by collecting Rs 2,122.90 crore more than the revenue collected during the corresponding period in the previous year.

Other important factors

The excise department, in order to ensure transparency and efficiency in administration, has brought 39 services under Sakala as per a government order.

In order to curb sale of liquor over the MRP, the Government has permitted Mysore Sales International Limited (MSIL) to open 1,363 retail outlets (CL-llc) in the state. And so far, MSIL has availed the permission to open 971 outlets. The department is taking all measures to reach the target of collecting Rs 24,580 crore revenue through effective inspection and enforcement.

CRACKDOWN ILLICIT LIQUOR BY EXCISE DEPARTMENT

AFTER finding that a few communities are involved in making illicit liquor at isolated places of some villages, the excise department has prevented making of illicit liquor by conducting raids on such units. The officials, in association with elected representatives and the elders of villages, have organised village level meetings to bring people making illicit liquor into the mainstream.

The officials have registered cases against the licence holders for violating the norms and have taken measures to suspend the licences or cancel the licences of the outlets.

Main proposals

It has been proposed to create a process of providing two-wheelers to around 350 Excise Sub-Inspectors to make enforcement effective.

Efforts are being made to have own buildings for the Excise Department Head Office and other offices.

Sale of IML and Beer

The state has reported sale of 583.23 lakh boxes of Indian Made Liquor in the year 2020-21 as against 600.92 lakh boxes of IML sold during the corresponding period in the previous year. The sale of Indian Made Liquor boxes was down by 2.94 per cent during the year.

The sale of IML was 154.19 lakh boxes from April to June in the year 2021-22 against 100.76 lakh boxes of IML sold during the corresponding period previous year, thus registering a 53.03 per cent growth by selling 53.43 lakh boxes of IML than in the corresponding period of the previous year. In the year 2020-21, 237.82 lakh carton boxes of beer were sold against 289.60 lakh carton boxes of beer sold in the previous year. The sale of beer carton boxes declined by 17.88 per cent in the year. The sale of beer registered 34.14 per cent growth between April and June during the year 2021-22 at 45.38 lakh beer carton boxes.

Enforcement and Inspection

The department officials have conducted many raids and registered 34,882 cases, arrested 21,527 people and seized 1,673 vehicles for violating the excise laws. The officials have seized 1,68,200 litres of liquor, 46,860 litres of beer, 9,933 litres of wine, toddy, and fenny, 67,946 litres of spirit, and 4,200 litres of illicit liquor from July 2020 to May 2021.

The officials have been organising village level meetings to create awareness among the villagers on the ill-effects of consuming illicit liquor. The officials have participated in 9,320 village level meetings between July 2020 and May 2021.

The officials have registered 339 cases under the NDPS Act from July 2020 to May 2021 and arrested 494 people, and seized 198 vehicles, 1,369.552 kg of ganja, 2824 ganja plants, 12.950 gm of afeem, and 7 gm of heroin.

DEPARTMENT OF COOPERATION

Elevating Socio-Economic Status

THE Department of Co-operation is a vital department of the Government of Karnataka and functions in close co-operation and co-ordination with various other departments connected with the implementation of socio-economic plans and schemes.

This department oversees the administration and functioning of various co-operative Institutions like textiles, sericulture, industries, animal husbandry, fisheries, sugar, horticulture, agriculture and irrigation. It also helps the societies financially, besides providing technical guidance and input.

Crop Loan Waiver Scheme 2018 in Cooperative Societies

The government has released Rs 3,042.32 crore to 6.61 lakh farmers in 2019-20, Rs 295.14 crore to 0.57 lakh farmers in 2020-21 under this scheme.

- Medium and long-term agricultural loans at 3 pe rcent interest and crop loans at zero per cent interest
- Rs 13,577 crore agricultural loan was disbursed to 22.58 lakh farmers in 2019-20.
- The department has achieved 113 per cent growth by distributing Rs 17,901.21 crore among 26.19 lakh farmers against the target fixed to disburse Rs 15,802 crore crop loans among 25.10 lakh farmers in the year 2020-21.
- A target was fixed to disburse Rs 2,0810 crore agricultural loans among 30.86 lakh farmers in the year 2021-22. The department has disbursed Rs 2,671.89 crore among 3.29 lakh farmers by the end of June this year.
- Interest waiver scheme for mid and long-term default agricultural loans as on January 31, .2020
- Under this scheme, 55,546 farmers were benefited Rs 261.07 crore interest waiver by paying the default loans. It helped the farmers to get agricultural loans again.

KARNATAKA COOPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS' FEDERATION LIMITED

- KMF has donated Rs 5 crore to Covid Relief Fund
- One litre of Nandini milk was distributed to each family at the rehabilitation shelters in the BBMP limits.
- Due to the demand for packed products during the Covid-19 pandemic, KMF has increased the production of sweet products to 350 metric tonnes as against 120 metric tonnes during the pre-Covid pandemic.

Measures taken due to Covid-19 pandemic

- Repayment of loans given to farmers and self-help groups was extended from 01-03-2020 to 31-03-2020 in the year 2020-21.
- Repayment of instalments of loans given to farmers and self-help groups was extended from April 1 to June 30, 2021.
- Financial assistance to provide basic amenities for Primary Agricultural Credit Cooperative Societies under the Central Government's Atma Nirbhar Scheme.
- Under the Central Government's Atma Nirbhar Scheme, Rs 316.72 crore credit was given at 4 per cent interest.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

CREATING AVENUES OF HOPE

WITH an aim of providing appropriate skills and job to the youth and to promote sustainable livelihoods, Department of Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood was created. Formed in 2016, the objective was to converge all skill development initiatives and put them under one umbrella. Since then the department has launched several unique schemes.

Yediyurappa inagurating the Bruhat Udyoga Mela at Shivamogga

STATE SCHEMES

Employment & Training

Under this scheme, Industrial training is provided under Craftsmen Training Scheme (CTS).

SC-ST Support

SC and ST Candidates are provided free stationary, shoes, uniforms, & tool kits.

Grant in Aid Institutes

Salary along with DA and leave encashment provided to 2412 posts belonging to 196 private ITIs. Establishment of State Training and Research Centre, Instructor Training Wing, ITI buildings, Multi Skill Development Corporation, etc. are other schemes.

The government has seized the property belonging to a firm for not paying rent towards using hangars at Jakkur Aerodrome in Bengaluru. The company had not paid rent for two hangars since 2008 and the government had issued notices demanding `1.50 crore as rent, read a statement issued from Sports and Youth Empowerment Minister Narayan Gowda's office

Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa with seers of various mutts in Bengaluru recently

DABBLING IN POLITICS, MUTTS BRING A NEW DIMENSION TO POWER PLAY

K SHIVA KUMAR @ Mysuru

AMID speculation over a change of guard to replace Lingayat strongman and Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa, trouble erupted from an unexpected quarter — seers from various mutts across the state. This threatens to upset political calculations for the BJP if the party top bosses "betray" Yediyurappa and the dominant Lingayat community. The buzz is that the BJP high command is working out an amicable formula to replace Yediyurappa while ensuring a smooth transition.

The backing of the seers enjoyed by Yediyurappa portrays the power mutts wield in Karnataka politics. The seers have served an ultimatum to the party high command to retain Yediyurappa as CM or ensure that only a Lingayat is chosen as replacement. Sri Prasanna Renuka Veerasomeshwara Shivacharya Swamiji of Rambapuri Peetha said Yediyurappa is the unquestionable leader of the Lingayat community, which will be hurt if he is removed. Shivamurthy Sharanaru of Muruga Mutt said, "If he is disturbed, the party will suffer. He has worked for the development of all castes. So, it is important for him to continue as CM, and we express our solidarity with him."

Political observers feel this is threatening to usher in a trend of religious heads taking control of the levers of power to shake the very foundation of constitutional democracy, undermining the citizenry and the rights bestowed on them in a parliamentary democracy system, besides undermining the rights of elected party MLAs to choose their new leader.

Yediyurappa is a four-time CM among the 12 CMs in the state so far from the Veerashaiva (Lingayat) community. He has a political career spanning over four decades, and can sense the party high command's mood, because of which he declared his readiness to obey their instructions, for a smooth change in leadership, if any. But the seers, in no mood to accept a change, have threatened to bring 500 of them to Bengaluru to exert pressure on the party against any such decision.

LONG HISTORY

Karnataka has a long history of mutts having close proximity to political power centres. Erstwhile kings like Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar and Baroda Maharaja Sayaji Gaikawad visited mutts in Sringeri, Tumakuru, among others. Even Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak (1919) and Mahatma Gandhi (1924) called on the Siddharoodha Mutt seer for guidance, blessings during the freedom struggle and before proceeding for the All India Congress session.

Many were impressed with the mutts following Basava's philosophy — offering free food, community feeding and developing education in rural areas, lessening the democratically elected governments' burdens.

This made former PM Indira Gandhi visit Siddaganga Mutt and other mutts in the vicinity, growing in influence during her contest from the Chikkamagalur Lok Sabha seat which gave her political rebirth post Emergency. Rajiv Gandhi and Sonia Gandhi too strengthened their bridges with mutts, visiting Siddaganga Mutt, JSS Mutt and also a few others in North Karnataka.

Senior BJP leaders A B Vajpayee, L K Advani and others, with Hindutva and nationalistic agenda, were close to Vishwesha Theerta Swami of Pejawar Mutt and had also called on dominant Veerashaiva mutts.

But the Sringeri Sharada Mutt, draws netas from all political denominations and keeps away from interfering in political developments either directly or indirectly. Former Prime Minister H D Deve Gowda is one of the most frequent visitors here. A few other mutts too have always maintained a healthy distance from politics.

Successive governments have encouraged the mutts to start educational institutions and hostels and extended them grants, besides sanctioning government land. Late Chief Minister Ramakrishna Hegde of the then Janata Party kept the mutts in good humour to win over the dominant community in North

BIG PICTURE

Karnataka which supported the Congress, encouraging the mutts to enter the higher education sector, and sanctioning medical, engineering and dental colleges. But the Hegde government also came under fire for encouraging capitation fee.

NEW TWIST IN STATE POLITICS

The fractured mandate and strategy to pull down the Congress-led coalition government to form the first JD(S)-BJP government with 20-20 power-sharing agreement started a new chapter in Karnataka politics when the JDS refused to make way for Yediyurappa to become CM in 2008. Yediyurappa, as Finance Minister in the coalition government, announced sops in the form of grants to religious mutts. When H D Kumaraswamy ditched the BJP, the Lingayat strongman hit the streets in protest against the betrayal of the Lingayats and launched a 'Dharmayuddha' from the premises of Siddaganga Mutt that got the seers to rally behind him and the BJP.

Yediyurappa helped BJP cross the three-digit figure in the Assembly and formed the government with the support of Independents while doling out more sops to see that the bonding is rock solid.

Even when the Karnataka Lokayukta indicted Yediyurappa in the mining cases, leading to his arrest and resignation as CM, he later launched KJP which managed to get 10% votes, reducing BJP's strength to 40 in the Assembly. The Linagayats and their seers rallied behind him, forcing the BJP top brass to bring back Yediyurappa into the party fold with a free hand to lead the party in the 2018 polls.

In October 2011, when Yediyurappa was jailed, the centenarian seer of Siddaganga Mutt, Sri Shivakumara Swamiji, who was known as the 'Walking God', paid a surprise visit to him at the Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research Centre in Bengaluru. The seer was not used to issuing political statements in favour of any politician or party, but his support for Yediyurappa was evident.

Despite, financial constraints, Yediyurappa announced funds liberally for various mutts of all castes that got them to pitch in in his favour.

(With inputs from: Devaraj B Hirehalli; Mahesh Goudar; Raghu Koppar; Udaya Kumar BR; Ramkrishna Badseshi; G Subhash Chandra; Pramodkumar Vaidya and Prakash Samaga)

SUNDAY INTERVIEW

Eshwarappa: Our govt has done well on all fronts

RAMU PATIL @ Bengaluru

THE BJP government in Karnataka is set to complete two years in office on Monday amid uncertainty over the leadership issue. Senior BJP leader and Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister K S Eshwarappa said the uncertainty will end soon. Excerpts from an interview:

Your government is completing two years in office amid political uncertainty.
The government has done well on all fronts and managed the Covid-19 pandemic well. We formed task forces even at the Gram Panchayat level, covered all houses and made all efforts to fight the pandemic. The government's performance has been good on all fronts.

There is so much ambiguity on the leadership issue for many months. Is it not impacting governance in the state?
Such a situation would not have arisen had we got majority on our own in the 2018 elections. People asked us to govern the state, but did not give us full majority. That was a setback for us. Our central leaders have addressed all the issues and there are no problems in the party now.

But what about leadership issue?
That is up to our central leaders and Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa. Everyone will abide by whatever decision they take.

When will this uncertainty end?
Chief Minister Yediyurappa has himself made it clear that he will get instructions (from the party high command) by this weekend and that he will act accordingly. I think it will end soon.

Who will be the next CM?
Whoever the central leaders pick will become the next CM and there is no question about it.

The Opposition Congress says BJP is looking for a new face in the state as it failed to deliver. How do you respond?
The Congress keeps making such allegations to cover up its failures and is hoping that people will forget its performance in the elections. They are yet to tell people why they lost the 2018 Assembly election, and why they could win just one out of the 28 Lok Sabha seats in the state.

BJP looking for new face as it failed to deliver: DKS

RAMU PATIL @ Bengaluru

THE Opposition Congress had to face major embarrassment over the debate on projecting the party's chief ministerial candidate for the next Assembly elections. Differences within the party came to the fore after some MLAs openly issued statements favouring Siddaramaiah as the CM candidate, irking KPCC president D K Shivakumar's supporters. Shivakumar, who was in Delhi recently to hold talks with the central leaders, however, says there is no rift within the Congress and says he believes in collective leadership. Excerpts.

You and Siddaramaiah met the party central leaders recently. What was discussed?
Many issues, including our stand on illegal surveillance using Pegasus spyware, political developments within the BJP, and what should be our plan of action on a lot of other issues that the BJP is trying to prop up. We also discussed preparations for the local body elections.

What about the rift between you and Siddaramaiah over the next CM candidate?
There is no rift in the party. In the Congress, at any point in time, we will not project a CM candidate. I believe in collective leadership. One person can't do everything and all of us need to work together. Only a few tried to make it an issue.

Was that issue also discussed in the meetings with Rahul Gandhi or other leaders?
No, it was not discussed. Discipline in the party is very important. Even before we visited Delhi, the central leaders had warned against speaking about it.

Your views on the current developments in BJP?
The developments in BJP itself show that they have completely failed on all fronts, and that is the reason they want to have a new face in the state. Otherwise, why would the BJP change the CM? Yediyurappa was over 75 years of age when he took over as the CM. It is a clear indication that they have failed on all fronts..

Many senior Lingayat leaders in the Congress have openly backed Yediyurappa
It is their personal opinion and not the party's view.

'BJP top brass monitoring Karnataka developments'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Yediyurappa, virtually inaugurating development works in his home district of Shivamogga on Saturday, said,"From the day I took charge as chief minister till now, I have had to face several challenges, including unprecedented natural disasters, Covid and now floods.".

A senior minister in the Yediyurappa cabinet said party central leaders are closely watching the developments in the State, including the pushback from Lingayat seers and community people, who are holding a convention in Bengaluru on Sunday. "There is a lot thinking and rethinking and a decision will be taken after taking into consideration all the factors," he said.

Interestingly, Home Minister Basavaraj Bommai met Union Minister Pralhad Joshi at the latter's residence at Hubballi late on Saturday evening. Coming out, Bommai, whose name too is doing the rounds for the chief minister's post, said the meeting had nothing to do with current political developments in the State, but restricted to development works related to his Assembly segment which falls under Joshi's parliamentary constituency.

Meanwhile, Joshi and Mines and Geology Minister Murugesh Nirani, who too are the options for the Chief Minister's post, earlier said that party central leaders will take a suitable decision.

Joshi said that nobody within the party, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi or party president JP Nadda, discussed leadership change with him. "I do not want to talk about it," he said, brushing off the issue.

Meanwhile, state BJP vice-president and chief minister's son BY Vijayendra was in New Delhi to meet party leaders.

BJP never respects its seniors, says Surjewala, slams Modi-Shah duo

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @ Tumakuru

THE culture of BJP is to insult senior leaders of the party, commented All-India Congress Committee (AICC) General Secretary, in charge of Karnataka, Randeep Singh Surjewala here on Saturday, referring to the heightened buzz in political circles over BS Yediyurappa demitting office as chief minister.

"Rejecting their own leaders is the classic style of functioning of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah. They did it to Jaswant Singh, Yashwant Sinha, Shanthakumarji, the architect of present day BJP, Keshubhai Patel in Gujarat, Hiren Pandya, who was finally shot dead, and Praveen Togadia, whom they used to cohabit with. Now, they may do the same with Yediyurappa. To insult and throw their own senior leaders into the dustbin is the BJP's culture," Surjewala added. He was addressing a divisional level conference of Congress leaders, including present and former legislators, and party ticket aspirants of Tumakuru, Chitradura,

AICC General Secretary Randeep Singh Surjewala addresses the media in Tumakuru on Saturday. KPCC chief DK Shivakumar is seen

Davangere, Chkkaballapur and Kolar districts at Tumakuru on Saturday. "The BJP government in Karnataka is an illegitimate and parachute government that came to power by hijacking opposition MLAs and spending a huge sum... It will soon crumble," he predicted.

He, however, clarified that the Congress need not capitalise on the BJP's leadership confusion, as there

> To insult and throw their own senior leaders into the dustbin is the BJP's culture. Rejecting their own leaders is the classic style of functioning of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah
>
> Randeep Singh Surjewala, Cong leader

are other issues related to corruption and mismanagement of Covid-19 situation that can be used to attack the government.

Asked under whose leadership the Congress will face the next Assembly elections, he said it will be a collective leadership and MLAs will decide who the CM would be after the results are declared.

Former Union minister KH Muniyappa said the downfall of BJP in the state will start with Yediyurappa's removal. CLP leader Siddaramaiah said that if Yediyurappa is replaced, then another corrupt leader will take charge as the CM. KPCC president DK Shivakumar said that Congress will be organised from the grassroots level to face the ensuing local body polls.

RESERVATION ROW

PANCHAMASALIS THREATEN TO RESUME AGITATION

ENS @ Bengaluru

WHILE one section of seers backing Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa is holding a mega-convention in Bengaluru on Sunday to send out a message to the BJP central leadership, the Panchamasali Lingayat community—led by its seers— have decided to relaunch their agitation demanding reservation under 2A category for the community.

Panchamasali seer Basava Jaya Mrutyunjaya Swamiji said Yediyurappa had said on March 15 this year that the government will consider the community's demand. This deadline will end on September 15, he said. "If our demand is not considered by then, then we will start protesting from October 1 at Freedom Park in Bengaluru," he said. "A campaign will be taken up from Basavakalayan to MM Hills between August 15 and September 30 and we will create awareness on the community's demand," he said.

On the leadership issue in the BJP, the seer said it is up to the party to take a call. "But, if the party decides to change the chief minister, a leader from the community must be appointed as the next CM. If the BJP central leaders consult us on the leadership issue, I will go to Delhi and meet them," he added.

POLITICAL THEATRE

No threat to turncoat ministers, says Nirani

KALABURAGI: Mines and Geology Minister Murugesh Nirani has said that there will be no threat to those legislators in the BS Yediyurappa Cabinet, who quit the Congress-JDS coalition government and joined the BJP in 2019, even if there is a change in leadership in the state. Speaking to reporters on Saturday, Nirani, who is also Kalaburagi district minister, pleaded ignorance when asked about the issue of change of guard in the state. Nirani said he has read about the issue only in newspapers and nobody in the party, including Yediyurappa, has spoken to him regarding the change of leadership. When asked if he is a contender to the CM's post, the Bilgi MLA said that all the 120 BJP legislators are qualified to become the CM and that he was not lobbying for any post. On his recent visit to Kashi Vishwanath Temple in Varanasi, Nirani asked people not to draw any inferences from the visit. ENS

Are seers super high command, asks Prasad

MYSURU : Commenting on the leadership issue in the state, BJP MP V Srinivas Prasad said that Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa has decided to resign as per an understanding between him and the party high command two years ago. "BJP has a policy that those above the age of 75 should not be in prominent positions... hence, Yediyurappa will resign after being at the helm for two years. The party high command has treated Yediyurappa with great respect and dignity," he said. When asked about seers demanding that the high command allow Yediyurappa to complete full-term in office, the veteran leader said there is no scope for third party intervention and expressed displeasure over the recent developments. "Are seers super high command?" he asked. Prasad also hit out at Congress leader Siddaramaiah for demanding the BJP to make an SC the CM. ENS

Kateel's dare to Cong: Name Kharge as CM pick

CHITRADURGA : BJP state president Nalin Kumar Kateel said on Saturday that decision on the leadeship issue will be taken by the party's central leadership. He refused to divulge further details. Reacting to former CM Siddaramiah's challenge to the BJP to announce a member belonging to the Schedule Caste as the next chief minister, if BS Yediyurappa steps down, the Dakshina Kannada MP thundered that the Congress has no respect towards the community. Kateel challenged Siddaramaiah to announce Rajya Sabha member and Congress stalwart Mallikarjun Kharge as the party's next chief ministeral candidate. Addressing party functionaries at the state executive committee meeting, Kateel said, "If you have real concern for SCs, first announce Kharge as your CM candidate and then lecture others. When you were ruling, you forgot about the community and deprived them of their rights." ENS

KARNATAKA TAKES GIANT TECH STRIDES

The Department of IT was carved out of the Department of Commerce and Industry, and Karnataka was the first state to draft its own IT Policy. Karnataka began its innovations in technology in 1998 and the department of BT was included in the IT department in 2001. Karnataka was the top performer for the second consecutive year in 2020 under the DPIIT's States' Startup Ranking. Karnataka retained its position as the most Innovative State and has been ranked No. 1 in the India Innovation Index 2020 released by Niti Aayog on January 20, 2021. Here are some other achievements.

MNC Engagement Cell

The department established an MNC Engagement Cell to develop and deepen engagement with tech-focused multinational companies and global capability centres/global in-house centres present in Karnataka. Through this Cell, it has connected with 33 companies to understand the support required from the Government of Karnataka. It has also arranged two MNC interaction sessions with the Swiss and American companies present in Karnataka to understand their current experience and suggestions to further accelerate experience in the state. The Cell is also handholding the investment project of Siemens Healthineers, leading healthcare company, with a proposed investment of over Rs 1,000 crore in Karnataka over a period of five years. Multiple rounds of discussions were conducted with Siemens Healthineers and other government departments to ensure the investment project is carefully handled and for coming up with a structured package of incentives for the benefit of all stakeholders.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaks via video conference during the Bengaluru Tech Summit 2020.

Karnataka Digital Economy Mission

'Karnataka Digital Economy Mission', a not-for-profit Section 8 company, was registered on September 26,, 2020, with equity participation from industry associations NASSCOM, IESA and ASSOCHAM. The KDEM office at K-WINGS Building, HSR Layout, was inaugurated on February 9, 2021. KDEM is designed to function as the knowledge bridge between the government t and industry with a view of accelerating the growth and investments of the El. IT, BT sectors and Startup ecosystem in Karnataka.

Beyond Bengaluru

A Task Group comprising members from industry and academia has submitted a report on "Beyond Bengaluru" with recommendations to increase the demand and identify solutions / models to increase the supply in cities Beyond Bengaluru. Combined with an effective government policy and schemes, new economic regions Beyond Bengaluru can bring together industry, entrepreneurship, education, talent, research and infrastructure to create employment and economic benefits.

AI Research

An "Artificial Intelligence Research Translation Park" will be established in association with the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, to promote AI-Research, AI-Innovation, AI-Commercialization, Pilot Project Implementation along with development of 5G technology. For this purpose, corpus grant of Rs.60 crore will be provided during the next three years.

Launch of COVID-19 related Products/ Solutions

The Department launched 22 COVID-related solutions with an objective to showcase the innovation potential of Karnataka.

Special Incentives Scheme for ESDM Sector

Aimed at attracting investments and boosting competitiveness in the Electronic System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) sector in Karnataka, the Department of Electronics, IT, BT and S & T, Government of Karnataka, has announced a slew of incentives exclusively for the ESDM sector, including 25 per cent capital investment subsidy on land and 20 per c cent on plant & machinery.

Karnataka Innovation Authority

The Karnataka Innovation Authority has been set up under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister of Karnataka, for the promotion of innovative emerging technologies. KIA Rules have been notified vide ITBT 26 ADM 2020 dated 07-08-2020.

ER&D Policy

Engineering R&D was announced on January 19, 2021 to boost ER&D in the state and build competitive advantage for the state in this landscape.

HEX Program

Hubballi ESDM Exchange (HEX) Program was launched on December 2, 2020 in association with IESA and KLE to promote ESDM startups in North Karnataka region.

IT Policy

IT Policy 2020-25 was announced vide G.O ITBT 07 ADM 2019 dated September 7, 2020. The focus is on attracting IT/ITeS companies in places other than Bengaluru. Power tariff concession was extended to two IT companies during FY 2020-21.

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman with Dr. CN Ashwath Narayan, Minister for IT/BT and S&T at Bangalore Bioinnovation Centre

Ashwathnarayan CN (centre) launches products to mitigate Covid-19 at an event in Bengaluru

Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa inaugurating Bengaluru Tech Summit 2019. Also seen is Dr. CN Ashwath Narayan

Internet of Ethical Things

With a high aim to emphasize morality in order to create a suitable environment, a Centre of Excellence in the matter of 'internet of ethical things' will be established in collaboration with the World Economic Forum of Davos by including interested stakeholders. The State Government will provide a financial assistance of Rs.30 cr in five years for the centre.

K-Wings

K-Wings building with 75,000 sqft area at HSR Layout, Bengaluru, was inaugurated in July,2020. K-tech Innovation Hubs in association with NASSCOM and IAMAI have been re-located to run the incubation programmes for startups.

STARTUP POLICY INITIATIVES

Idea2PoC/ Elevate Grant-in-Aid Seed Funding Programme

- The signing of MoAs for all the 93 & 20 winners of Elevate Call2 and Elevate Unnati (FY 2019-20) respectively, under the Grant-in-aid seed funding programme, was conducted in July 2020. The first grant amount of Rs. 1,125 lakh and Rs. 200 lakh was released during FY 2020-21.
- The Grand Finale Elevate-Unnati 2020 (Grant-in-aid seed funding programme for SC/ST entrepreneurs) for the year 2020-21 was conducted on December 22 and 23, and 19 startups were declared winners. The first grant amount of Rs. 137 lakh was released on January 22, 2020.
- 69 startups were reviewed for tranche milestone completion, and Rs. 508.22 lakh was released during FY 2020-21.

Incentives for Startups

Apart from other incentives, an amount of Rs 24,81,957 was disbursed to the startups as part of the Incentives/ Reimbursement under the Startup Policy during the year 2020-21.

Talent Acceleration Programme

Talent Acceleration Programme will be started in collaboration with the Skill Development Department to impart skills for guaranteed placement of graduate students. In all, 1,000 graduates will be trained in the next two years.

ESDM Policy

ESDM Policy 2017-22 was announced to develop Karnataka as a global ESDM hub through focused interventions to local companies. Incentives to the tune of Rs 11.88 crore was disbursed till date. In FY 2020-21, Rs 1.88 crore was disbursed to 11 ESDM companies.

Cyber Security Awareness

The K-Tech COE on Cyber Security hosted a month-long cyber security awareness campaign during October, 2020. The DCM inaugurated the programme on October 5, 2020 and awareness sessions were conducted for all DCs/CEOs/ SPs and senior officers.

CoE for Efficiency Augmentation

To address the technical challenges of various important sectors in the development of Karnataka, a Centre of Excellence for Efficiency Augmentation will be established in collaboration with STPI with an investment of Rs.30 crore.

Bio Life Science Park

HELIX Biotechnology Park was conceptualized to create world-class biotech ecosystem with best-in-class specialized R&D infrastructure to support a vibrant biotech ecosystem in Bengaluru. The Institute of Bioinformatics and Applied Biotechnology, Centre for Human Genetics and Bangalore Bioinnovation Centre, located within the Biotechnology Park, are one of the state's best resource centres for capacity building and supporting the growth of biotech sector in the state.

Bengaluru Lifesciences Park (BLP), the integrated industry zone spread in an area of 52 acres, will have a total built-up area of about 50 lakh sqft. when fully developed. It will house the best-in-class laboratory infrastructure to support a host of R&D activities with 60 per cent of the area reserved for biotech/lifesciences companies. It is estimated that the industry zone with 150+ biotech/ lifesciences companies and over 50,000 employees will be the growth engine of the biotech sector in the state.

The constriction work is under progress.

BIO ECONOMY

Karnataka contributes to about

34%

of India's $ 60 billion bio economy, which is expected to reach $100 billion by 2025. The government commissioned an in-depth study for drawing a roadmap and strategy to increase the contribution of Karnataka to 50% by 2025.

DETAILS OF SANCTION AND DISBURSEMENT BY ALL VC FUNDS DURING THE PERIOD 01.04.2020 TO 31.03.2021

NAME OF THE VC FUND & CORPUS	SANCTION	DISBURSEMENT
KARSEMVEN FUND RS 92.95 CRORE	RS 29.75 CRORE FOR 8 UNITS *	RS 5.00 CRORE TO 1 UNIT
KITVEN FUND-3 (BIOTECH) RS 35.55 CRORE	RS 4.10 CRORE FOR 2 UNITS **	RS.2.00 CRORE TO 1 UNIT
KITVEN FUND-4 (AVGC) RS.20.00 CRORE	APPLICATIONS INVITED	

Congress leader Ramanath Rai on Saturday demanded a probe into an audio clip allegedly by BJP state president Nalin Kumar Kateel purportedly discussing leadership change and removal of Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa

TRACKING COVID-19

SPEED AND RISE OF COVID-19 CASES IN KARNATAKA

1,857 CASES REPORTED TODAY

TALLY SO FAR AS ON

TODAY 28,93,556

YESTERDAY 8,91,699

1,705 CASES REPORTED YESTERDAY

DEATHS

TODAY 29 YESTERDAY 30

The first Covid-19 case in Karnataka was reported on March 8, 2020. Since then until July 24, 2021, a total of 28,93,556 cases have been reported in 1 year and 134 days...

DISCHARGES

TODAY 2,050 YESTERDAY 2,243

Active cases

TODAY 23,905

YESTERDAY 24,127

POSITIVITY RATE

TODAY 7.67%

YESTERDAY 7.70%

he day positivity rate – 1.21% – is calculated as the number of patients testing positive out of 100 tests conducted only in a day.

MORTALITY RATE

TODAY 1.25%

YESTERDAY 1.25%

RECOVERY RATE

TODAY 97.91%

YESTERDAY 97.90%

DISTRICT-WISE COVID CASES

LAST 24 HOURS

551 BENGALURU URBAN

44 BENGALURU RURAL

Bagalkot	1
Ballari	12
Belagavi	46
Bidar	1
Chamarajanagar	34
Chikkaballapur	18
Chikkamagaluru	57
Chitradurga	14
Dakshina Kannada	269
Davanagere	16
Dharwad	7
Gadag	3
Hassan	111
Haveri	6
Kalaburagi	8
Kodagu	79
Kolar	23
Koppal	2
Mandya	37
Mysuru	177
Raichur	0
Ramanagara	1
Shivamogga	51
Tumakuru	99
Udupi	129
Uttara Kannada	59
Vijayapura	2
Yadgir	0

Slow vaccination drive among adults could expose children to infection

Covid-infected kids can develop Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome, warn experts

CHETANA BELAGERE @Bengaluru

THE slowing down of the vaccination drive for adults can lead to an increase in Covid-19 cases among children, fear experts. Doctors and public health experts say that the trend in infections is particularly high among younger adults. This will likely trigger an increase in cases among younger children in the near future if the vaccination rate is not increased, they say.

Dr C N Reddy, Professor, Paediatrics, Bowring and Lady Curzon Hospital, says serosurveys across many districts in Karnataka have shown that wherever the infected adult population is high, vaccination is low in all those places. "The number of cases of children being infected has also gone up. This suggests that children are most often infected by adults."

Public health experts worry that the drop in the pace of the vaccination drive across all age groups, coupled with many not getting their second dose, can be a serious concern.

"Unvaccinated adults can bring home the infection and children with Covid-19 can develop a condition called Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome (MIS-C) in any part of the body, including the heart, lungs, kidney, brain, skin, eyes or other organs. Hence, it is better that the State Government looks at ensuring vaccine availability for adults even before thinking of vaccinating children," suggests Dr Reddy.

According to Dr Sanjay Gururaj, Paediatrician, SHRC Hospitals in Jayanagar, compelling data on the impact of adult vaccination on children has been shown in many countries, the recent one being from Brazil's state of Sao Paulo, where 98% adults were vaccinated and a striking reduction in Covid -19 cases and deaths was found even amongst children. Also, there was drop in symptomatic infections that occurred in unvaccinated children. "In that state of Brazil, like in India, there were arguments that the third wave may predominantly hit children as they are unvaccinated, but that didn't happen," he pointed out.

Interestingly, similar scenarios have played out in countries with high vaccination rates, such as Israel and the United States. Studies published in some medical journals have shown that the cases in children below 18 years of age fell by 84% after over half of the US population had received at least one dose of the vaccine. Infections in children have fallen as adults get their shots.

Public health experts say that an increased number of cases in one age group is likely to spill over into other age groups. A senior doctor and public health expert from Udupi said, "It is important for schools to open up, but the State Government should emphasise on adults at home and school being vaccinated."

Jabs for kids likely by Sept, but docs say wait and watch

NUMBER OF COVID CASES IN CHILDREN

0 TO 9 YEARS 89,568

10 TO 19 YEARS 2,21,604

NUMBER OF COVID DEATHS IN CHILDREN

0 TO 9 YEARS 63

10 TO 19 YEARS 90

"It is important for schools to open up, but government should emphasise on adults at home and school being vaccinated" Expert

CHETANA BELAGERE @Bengaluru

WHILE schools in the state are preparing for reopening in the first week of August and AIIMS chief Randeep Guleria announcing that India is likely to start vaccinating children by September, parents are a worried lot. Reason: Many paediatricians have suggested that parents should wait for more data to be released and not hurry with vaccinating children. "Parents should wait for a safe, good, effective vaccine with convincing data," feels Dr Jagadish Chinappa, Paediatric Cluster Head, Manipal Hospitals, who is also part of the 13-member high-level committee headed by renowned cardiologist Dr Devi Shetty, which is advising the state government on a possible third wave of Covid-19 infections.

As far as vaccinating children is concerned, there are two distinct lines of thinking in the medical fraternity. Dr Jagadish says one section of doctors argue that taking vaccines is important for three reasons — the significance of the disease, children can spread to older people and the longer you wait, the danger of more variants. "The other section believes that it is better to wait. Reasons being inadequate trials, very benign in small children, we don't know which vaccine is better. Right now, Zydus has submitted its data, but we have not seen it. The argument is that there is no clarity on which one is better," Dr Jagadish said.

India's drug regulator has not yet approved any vaccine for children. The Zydus Cadila and Pfizer vaccines mentioned by Guleria have not even received approval for use among adults in India. Vaccine approval may come by September, but rollout will be delayed," says Dr Chandrakant Lahariya, Epidemiologist, public policy and health systems expert and lead co-author of 'Till We Win: India's Fight Against the Covid-19 Pandemic'.

He explains that "even with the opening of schools, it will be the choice of parents whether to continue online mode or send children to schools for a few offline classes as well."

COVID NUMBERS

Data reveals worrying trends for state in coming days

ENS @ Bengaluru

WHILE almost everything has opened up, with a rider that Covid-19 safety protocols and Covid-appropriate behaviour are followed, Karnataka and the capital Bengaluru are showing signs of heading towards a worsening situation on the Covid-19 front.

While the gap between the number of discharged patients and new cases is narrowing down, the rate of decline in the number of active cases is slowing down considerably — not good signs, specially at a time when the State Government says that the second wave is tapering and has opened the city and most parts of the state to normal life, with only heavy rains keeping people indoors.

Across the state, while the daily number of new Covid-19 cases has been more or less steady, the number of discharged patients has fallen from 3,188 on July 15 to 2,050 on Saturday.

The fall in the number of active cases recorded on Saturday was from 24,127 cases on Friday to 23,905 cases, which is just 0.92%. However, since July 15, the decline has been much sharper, the biggest being 6.02% on July 19 and 4.61% on July 20. After that, it has fallen to 3.7% on July 22, 2.3% on July 23, and 0.92% on Saturday.

For Bengaluru, it was just 0.21% decline on Saturday, after seeing a 8.01% fall in active cases on July 19 from 11,751 cases to 10,809 cases. The city's active cases now stand at 8,346 compared to 8,364 the previous day. The recovery rate too has slowed down as there was an improvement from 97.9% on Friday to just 97.91% on Saturday.

COVID BYTES

'200-300% rise in Parkinson's disease cases by 2030'

BENGALURU: Health and Medical Education Minister Dr K Sudhakar warned people about the rapid increase in Parkinson's disease and said that the country is expected to see a rise of 200-300 per cent of cases by 2030. Speaking at the inaugural session of a virtual symposium organised by Kings College, London (KCL) in collaboration with Parkinson's Research Alliance of India (PRAI) on Saturday, Dr Sudhakar said that 350-400 people out of 1 lakh population are affected by this disease in India. "This will increase to 200-300 per cent by 2030. One per cent of the total population will be affected," he added. The symposium by KCL and PRAI will assist the research work on this, he added. NIMHANS has been recognised for its work on Neurodegenerative diseases. NIMHANS will undertake research work on Parkinson's disease in collaboration with other centres of PRAI. "Our government will look forward to collaborate with KCL and PRAI to build an academic platform and train young researchers," he said.

Lost and Found

I.**Rajiv Harish Kumar** S/o **Harisha Kumar** R/at: Door No: 21, Ganigara A lane Nagartha pet, Bengaluru - 560002 No: 9844841131 I submit that I have Original Document **No:3208/1992 ,Sy No.757/B, 692/4** formed in Site No: 118, situated at :Punapalli village, Hosur Taluk, Krishnagiri Dist the above said Documents was in my custody but it was lost on: 05-05-2021 , at While travelling Nagarthara pet to Malleshwaram Bengaluru . I lodge the complainant the concerned Malleswaram Police Station.Reference **No: 2220/2021, PO No:13392929960285** Notary Advocate **Muniswamy.T**

Lost and Found

I, **C.S Shankar** S/o **M.J Jagannathan** Residing at: #233, Pillanna garden 3rd stage, 7th cross, 7th Main Road, Bengaluru -560084. Mob No.9732841331. I submit that I have Original Document **No: 2331/1993,Sy No.788/1, 798, formed in Site No: 3040, 3041,3050, 3051,** situated at : Poonapalli village, Hosur Taluk, Krishnagiri Dist the above said Documents was in my custody but it was lost on: 10-05-2021, at While travelling Willsan garden to Malleshwaram Bengaluru. I lodge the complainant the concerned Malleswaram Police Station. Reference **No: 2228/2021, PO No: 13392929960293**.Notary **advocate Muniswamy**

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank (A Government of India Undertaking)

D Costa Square Branch
No 98/1-2, Wheeler Road Extn,
Cooke Town, Bangalore -560005
Phone No. 25498898
E-Mai: cb0432@canarabank.com

POSSESSION NOTICE APPENDIX IV under Act-Rule 8 (1) (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the **Canara Bank D Costa Square Branch, Bangalore** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a **Demand Notice Dated 31.03.2021** calling upon the **Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor 1) Mr. Thomas Ravi S, 2) Mrs. Sudha Thomas** W/o Thomas Ravi both are Residing at No. 14/1, Govindappa Road, Flat No. 301, Sudarshan Enclave, R.S.Palya, Kammanahalli, Bangalore-560033 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 35,79,901/-** (Rupees Thirty Five Lakhs Seventy Nine Thousand Nine Hundred and One Only) as on **31.03.2021** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower/ Guarantor/Mortgagor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/ Guarantor/Mortgagor and the public in general, that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act, read with rule 8 and 9 of the security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this **20th day of July of the year 2021.**

The Borrower/ Guarantor/Mortgagor in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **Canara Bank** for an amount of **Rs. 35,79,901/-** (Rupees Thirty Five Lakhs Seventy Nine Thousand Nine Hundred and One Only) as on **31.03.2021** and interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Section 13 (8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable Property: Schedule -A: All that piece and parcel of property bearing No. 42/1, Khatha No. 42/1/1195, carved out of Survey No. 42/1 of Lingarajapuram Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, presently under the jurisdiction of BBMP, Municipal New No. 14/1, PID Khatha No. 87-165-14/1 situated at BBMP Ward No. 87, Govindappa Road, Lingarajapuram, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore, measuring East to West 52 Feet and North to South 55 Feet, totally measuring 2860 Sq.Ft with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever hereunder or underneath or above the surface and bounded on the East by : Private Property, West by : 15 Feet Road, North by : Remaining Portion of the same Property, South by : Govindappa Road.

Schedule-B: All that piece and parcel of the Residential Flat bearing No. 301, PID Khatha No. 87-165-14/1-6, in the Third Floor of the Apartment Building Known as "Sudarshan Enclave" measuring 1240 Sq.Ft of super built-up area, Vetrified Flooring with one covered Car Parking space in the stilt floor and 345 Sq.Ft of undivided share, right, title and interest in the Schedule A Property and right of use of common areas and facilities situated at BBMP Ward No. 87, Lingarajapuram, Govindappa Street, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore and bounded on the East by : Passage, West by : Open to Sky, North by : Flat No. 302, South by : Open to Sky.

Date : 20.07.2021 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place : Bangalore **Canara Bank**

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Executive Engineer PWD Division Chikkodi
Phone : 08338-273859, E-mail: eepwdckd@gmail.com

No. : PWD/CKD DIV/AE-1/TENDER/2021-22/1367 **Date : 22-07-2021**

Short Term E-Tender Notification (Call-2)

Executive Engineer PWD Division, Chikkodi has invited item wise short term e Re-Tenders from Eligible registered contractors for the works coming under the jurisdiction of **Chikodi PWD Division** 1 works under head of account **3054-SH Maintenance (Flood) Amount put to tender is Rs. 263.16 Lakhs.**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

1) Pre-bid Meeting Date : 26-07-2021 at 11.00 a.m. at The O/o. the under signed. 2) Last date for queries & clarifications : 28-07-2021 up to 5.30 p.m. 3) Last Date of Receipt of Bids : 30-07-2021 up to 5.00 p.m. 4) Date of Opening of Technical Bids (Two Cover System): 02-08-2021 at 4.30 p.m. 5) Date of Opening of Financial Bids (Two Cover System) : after approval of Technical bids.

For more information & forms of tender can be downloaded from **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** & departmental website **www.kpwd.gov.in.** Further details can be collected from **O/o. Executive Engineer Public Works Dept.,Division Chikkodi during working hours.**

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD Division Chikkodi.

DIPR/Belagavi/491/Manipal/2021-22

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Office of the Executive Engineer KNNL UTP Division,Shivamogga.
Phone No:08182-257189 Fax : 08182-254832
E-mail: eeutpsmg@gmail.com

1. No: EE/UTPDN/SMG/KNNL/PB-2/T.N. NO.06/2021-22/call-2 Date:20.07.2021

2. No:EE/UTPDN/SMG/KNNL/PB-2/T.N. NO.16/2021-22/call-2 Date:20.07.2021

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement only)

On Behalf of the Managing Director, KNNL, Bengaluru, the Under signed invites tender Through e-portal system from Eligible contractors for Two (02) works coming under Tunga modernization and U.A.L.I.S Project Under Head of Account 4701)

1) Approx. Amount put to tender as per estimation is 486.36 and 1033.37 Lakhs **2)** Last date for questions/clarifications regarding the tender: 26.07.2021 up to 17.00hrs. **3)** Date for Submission of filled tenders from 20.07.2021 to 30.07.2021 up to 17.30 hrs (During office Hours)

Further details on date of opening the Tender /Detail of work E.M.D. Amount/Terms and Conditions of the tender/ Class of Contractor, Etc, can be obtained in the Tender Notification or from the office of the Under signed during office hours or in website https://eproc.Karanataka.Gov.in for further details the office of the Undersigned can be contacted during office hours on phone no.08182-254832 from 30.04.2021 Information can be obtained through http:\www.eproc.Karanataka.gov.in

Sd/- Executive Engineer,'
KNNL UTP Division, Shivamogga.

DIPR/smg/No.121/07/mca/21-22

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED
Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id :** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Ph :** 0435-2432322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746

RE-TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Re-Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.62,06,981/- (Rupees Sixty Two Lakh Six Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty One Only)** as on **10-02-2021** together with further interest to be charged from **11-02-2021** onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the borrowers / guarantors **No.1) Mr. Syed Ali, S/o. Syed Ibrahim, No.36, Jamiya Masjid Road, Soladevanahalli, Chikkabanavara, Bangalore - 90. No.2) Mrs. Sabiha Khanam, W/o. Syed Ali, No.36, Jamiya Masjid Road, Soladevanahalli, Chikkabanavara, Bangalore - 90. No.3) Mr. Imran Khan, S/o. Sardar, No.269, GO Compound, Belathur, Kadugodi, Bangalore - 560 067.**

Note : That our **512-R.T. Nagar- Bangalore Branch** has also extended Financial Assistance **(CUB OSL SPECIAL-BR:501812080059454)** dated **30-12-2019** requested by No.1 of you for which No.2 of you stood as Co-obligant for the facility for a total amount of **Rs.5,00,000/-** at a ROI of **13.5%.** The same has been also classified as NPA on **12-02-2020** and the outstanding balance as on **10-02-2021** is **Rs. 5,91,757/- (Rupees Five Lakh Ninety One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Seven Only)** plus further interest and penal interest of **2.00%** with monthly rests to be charged from **11-02-2021** till the date of realization.

Immovable Properties Mortgaged to our Bank
(Properties Owned by Mr. Syed Ali, S/o. Syed Ibrahim)

Schedule - A Property : All the piece and parcel of land bearing converted Sy No.138/3, situated at site No.200/1, in New BBMP Katha 1002/1199/1093/882/200/1 in Sy No.138/3, situated at Savaboumanagar, Bilekahalli Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, measuring East to West 120 feet, North to South 80 feet, Totally measuring 9,600 Sq.feet. **Boundaries :** East by : 30 feet Road, West by : Private Property, North by : 30 feet Road, South by : 30 feet Road.

Schedule - B Property : An undivided 236 Sq.feet share in the land comprised in the Schedule A Property.

Schedule - C Property : All the piece and parcel of the Flat bearing No.G-8 in the Ground Floor in the residential apartment known as NEHA LEGEND, to be constructed on the Schedule A property, consisting of living, dining and three bedrooms, having super built-up-area of 1,220 Sq.feet equipped with Flooring, Sanitary, Electrical Wiring and other facilities with car parking space in the Stilt Floor.

Reserve Price: Rs.50,00,000/-
(Rupees Fifty Lakh Only)

RE-AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
12-08-2021	City Union Bank Limited, R.T. Nagar-Bangalore Branch, 590, HMT Layout, 4th Cross, R.T. Nagar, Bangalore - 560 032. Telephone No.080-23337000, Cell No.9342855177.

Terms and Conditions of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale :

(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself / herself. **(2)** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, R.T. Nagar-Bangalore Branch, 590, HMT Layout, 4th Cross, R.T. Nagar, Bangalore - 560 032. (3)** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 01.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. **(4)** For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact : **Telephone No.080-23337000, Cell No.9342855177. (5)** The property/ies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever- there is" basis. **(6)** The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **02.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. **(7)** The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the sale amount **immediately** on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. **(8)** The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **(9)** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges / fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. **(10)** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. **(11)** The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place: Kumbakonam, Date: 23-07-2021 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.** 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

M/s. TBC HOMES INFRA CORP, No.23, Sy.No.86/4, Byagadadenahalli, Chandapura, Anekal Road, R.K. Form Arch, Bangalore-562106, represented by its Partner Sri. Manu N., do hereby state that, I have lost the below mentioned original Sale deeds in respect of the Properties situated at **Byagadadenahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District.** I have lodged a police complaint on 24.07.2021. Whoever finds the documents kindly handover the documents to any of us at our Advocate having office at mention below. The public is hereby cautioned not to transact with anybody claiming to be the owners of the said survey numbers holding the lost original documents, any transactions made without our knowledge will be at their cost.

1. Sale Deed dated 09.01.1995, bearing No. 3878/1995-96 of Sy.No.81.
2. Sale Deed dated 25.04.1976, bearing No. 1679/1945-46 of Sy.No.86/14.
3. Sale Deed dated 06.01.1968, bearing No. 3422/1968-69 of Sy.No.86/15
4. Sale Deed dated 09.11.1981, bearing No. 972/1981-82 of Sy.No.86/15.
5. Sale Deed dated 25.11.1992, bearing No. 1971/1991-92, of Sy.No.86/20.
6. Sale Deed dated 28.04.1993, bearing No. 207/1993-94, of Sy.No.87/2.
7. Sale Deed dated 09.11.1995, bearing No. 5154/1995-96, of Sy.No.87/2.
8. Sale Deed dated 03.02.2006, bearing No. 15334/2005-06, of Sy.No.87/3.
9. Sale Deed dated 29.03.2007, bearing No. 34194/2006-07, of Sy.No.87/3.
10. Sale Deed dated 20.02.2010, bearing No. 4029/2009-10, of Sy.No.87/3.
11. Sale Deed dated 30.05.1957, bearing No. 926/1957-58 of Sy.No.94/1.
12. Sale Deed dated 24.08.2013, bearing No. 3650/2013-14 of Sy.No.94/1.

M/s. Jury Legal Solutions
Advocates
No. 8, 14th Cross, 14th Main, Behind HP Petrol Bunk, Near BDA Complex, HSR Layout, Bangalore-560102. Mobile: 9844897355. 9902195500

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client **Mr.RAJESH, S/o** Late.Nathulal, residing at No.6, Prem Kunj, 1st Cross, 1st Main, Widia Layout, Chandra Layout Main Road, Attiguppe, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru-40, proposes to purchase the following property from Late. V.Balakrihna Shetty and Late.Sarojamma's legal heirs **Mr.B.Suresh, Mrs.D.Pushpa Srinivas and Mr.B.Anand and his family Members,** all are residing at Bengaluru.

Any person/s and Financial Institutions having any right, title, interest claims objections for the above said transaction any lodge his/their claims/objections with documentary evidence within 15 days from the date of publication of this which with the undersigned, failing which, thereafter any client shall proceed to complete the transaction and any claim/s or objection/s received thereafter will not be entertained.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing **Corner** Site Nos.6, 7 & 8, Portion of Land bearing Survey No.7/1, Situated at Byatarayanapura Village, Mysore Road, Kasaba, Bengaluru North Taluk, Now assigned as Corporation bearing No.1, Old No.30/31, PID.No.41-10-1, Presently Situated at **3rd CROSS, IYANNA SHETTY LAYOUT,** BMP ward No.41, BBMP Ward No. 157, Bengaluru, measuring East to West: 80 Feet, North to South : 20 Feet, along with 40 years back constructed RCC roofed commercial Eight shops Building, and bounded on :

East by :: 20 Feet Road,
West by :: 20 Feet Road,
North by :: 20 Feet Road,
South by :: Site Nos.22 and 31.

Sd/- S.R. GANGADHAR, Advocate
Mathrushree Associates
No.V-5, Shop No.2, Opp KIADB Building Near Peenya Sub-Registrar Office, 14th Cross, Peenya 2nd Stage, Bangalore-58 Mob No.9448522933
Date: 25.07.2021, Place : Bangalore.

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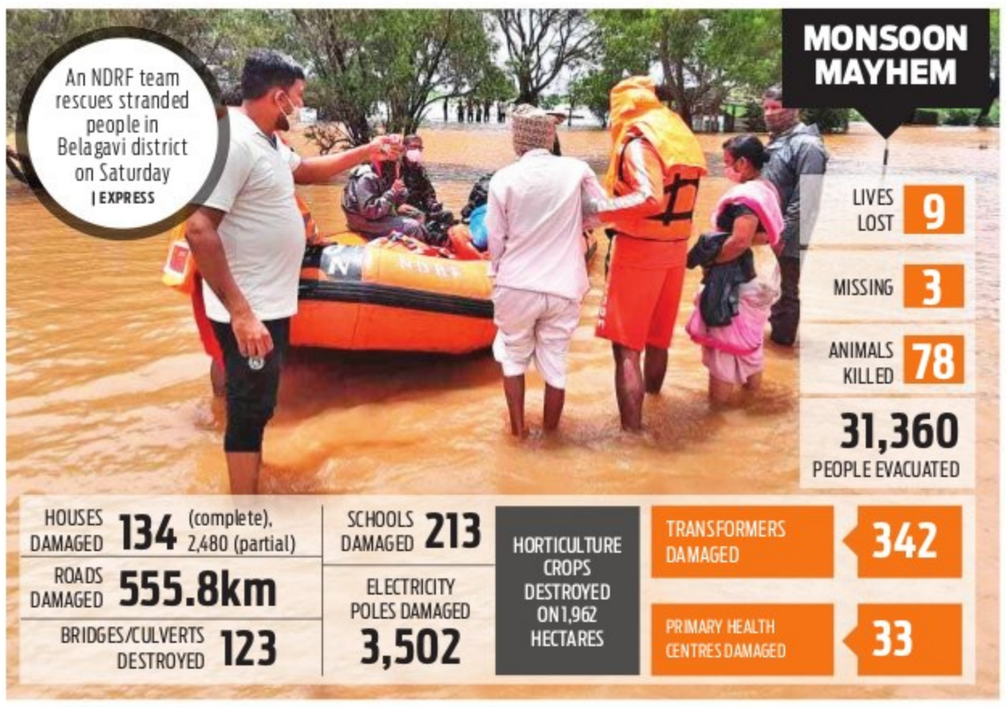
QuoteExpress **IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING** › WINSTON CHURCHILL

In the wake of heavy rain in several districts of the state, the South Western Railway has cancelled, terminated and diverted some train services.

FLOOD FURY

HEAVY RAIN CLAIMS 9 LIVES, BSY TO VISIT BELAGAVI TODAY

NDRF teams deployed to assist local authorities in rescue operations; several districts see loss of crops and damage to homes and infrastructure


MONSOON MAYHEM
An NDRF team rescues stranded people in Belagavi district on Saturday | EXPRESS
LIVES LOST 9
MISSING 3
ANIMALS KILLED 78
31,360 PEOPLE EVACUATED
HOUSES DAMAGED 134 (complete), 2,480 (partial)
ROADS DAMAGED 555.8km
BRIDGES/CULVERTS DESTROYED 123
SCHOOLS DAMAGED 213
ELECTRICITY POLES DAMAGED 3,502
HORTICULTURE CROPS DESTROYED ON 1,962 HECTARES
TRANSFORMERS DAMAGED 342
PRIMARY HEALTH CENTRES DAMAGED 33

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

NINE people have died and three have gone missing so far in Karnataka with torrential rain lashing several parts of the state for the last three days.

Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa held a series of meetings over video-conference with officials of Belagavi, Uttara Kannada, Shivamogga, Haveri, Chikkamagaluru and Dharwad districts on Friday to take stock of the situation. Yediyurappa will visit Belagavi -- one of the worst-hit districts--- on Sunday.

Meanwhile, district ministers have been directed by the CM to stay put in their districts and supervise rescue and relief operations.

Of the nine people who have lost their lives so far, six died of drowning. While two people each drowned in Belagavi and Uttara Kannada, one each drowned in Dharwad and Kodagu districts.

One person died due to house collapse in Chikkamagaluru and two owing to landslides in Uttara Kannada.

Landslides have been reported from 16 places, with Uttara Kannada being the worst-hit.

Fifteen teams of the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) and National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) have been deployed to assist local authorities with rescue operations.

According to the data from the Karnataka State Natural Disaster Management Centre, coastal and Malnad districts have received anywhere between 500mm and 1,238 mm of rainfall over the last 7 days. While 40,000 people have been affected, 283 villages and 45 taluks have been severely hit. Apart from roads, agricultural land, electricity poles, bridges, school buildings, and other public property have also been damaged.

IMD forecasts monsoon lull for five days

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

IN what comes as a respite for not just citizens but also for the government, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast that there will be a lull in monsoon showers for the next five days.

According to IMD officials, since the onset of monsoon, the state has received 501.6 mm rainfall, against the normal 403.8 mm, which is a 24-per cent excess. Bengaluru recorded 24.4 mm rainfall up to 8.30 pm on on Saturday, while the HAL airport itself recorded 16.6 mm.

IMD - Bengaluru Director-in-Charge C S Patil said that a yellow alert has been issued for coastal regions for July 25 and 26. Gradually the monsoon rains will reduce, following which, for the next 4-5 days, there will be some relief. Later, the rain will start to intensify as more systems are forming in the oceans. He added that this year, the monsoon has been vigorous which has made the state so far experience above normal rainfall. He explained that at present the winds are strong. A low pressure area prevails over Jharkhand and surrounding areas.

Also, the monsoon trough at mean sea level runs south of its normal position and is likely to remain in this position for the next 48 hours.

The inundated Hadinaru Kallu Mantapa in Nanjangud on Saturday | UDAY SHANKAR S

Rain takes a break, but leaves a trail of destruction

ENS @ Bengaluru

FINALLY, the heavy downpour that was lashing several districts of Karnataka over the last three days has begun to wane to some extent. But what it has left behind is a trail of loss, destruction and broken lives. From Belagavi to Mysuru, incessant rainfall and resultant floods have triggered landslides, inundated villages and destroyed crops.

Though the rain has receded in Belagavi, villages in Chikkodi, Nipani and Athani taluks, located on the banks of Krishna river, have suffered from the wrath of floods. Due to heavy rains in the Western Ghats, the catchment area of the Krishna in Maharashtra, over 1.3 lakh cusecs of water is being released from dams, including Koyna. Authorities in Karnataka too have started releasing around 2.17 lakh cusecs of water from Almatti and other dams in the Krishna river basin.

Families have suffered huge losses as flood waters have entered their homes since Friday night. While 19,000 people have been shifted to safer places, two have died.

Deputy Commissioner MG Hiremath said, "We have set up 89 rehabilitation centres, giving shelter to 8,795 people."

Rain has inflicted heavy damage on farmers in Hubballi, while flood waters have submerged roads, cutting off villages from the outside world. Lakes, streams and other water bodies are overflowing.

Officials said 21,732 hectares of maize, soya bean, green gram and cotton crops are under water. Hubballi DC Nitesh Patil said 16 bridges are partially damaged. Gadag, too, has faced a similar situation with hundreds of houses collapsing over the last two days.

With the rain lashing Wayanad region in Kerala, irrigation officials have discharged 30,000 cusecs of water from the Kabini reservoir, and may discharge more based on the inflow. Officials monitoring the inflow near Bavali on the Karnataka-Kerala border have issued flood warnings.

PENDING DUES

Property of aero sports firm seized over rent

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

STATE Government officials have seized property belonging to Agni Aerosports Private Limited for not paying rent towards use of hangars at Jakkur Aerodrome in Bengaluru.

The company had not paid rent for two hangars since 2008, and the government had issued notices demanding Rs 1.50 crore towards the same, said a statement issued from Sports and Youth Empowerment Minister Narayan Gowda's office.

The statement also accused the firm of violating DGCA norms by operating flights without proper permission and using the hangars to park aircraft owned by other individuals. Gowda had held several rounds of meetings with officials to review the functioning of the Government Flying Training School at Jakkur and had directed them to take action against firms that had failed to clear dues.

Notices have been issued to firms using hangars at the aerodrome, asking them to clear dues within 15 days, it added.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ
ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಚೇರಿ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ-580 021
ದೂರವಾಣಿ (ಕ): 0836-2373348 ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್ : 0836-2373724 ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್: www.kimshubballi.org
ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.ಕೆಮ್ಸ್/ನಿಕಾ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/2021-22/247 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 23-07-2021

ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ, ಕೆಮ್ಸ್ ಆವರಣದಲ್ಲಿಯ 1) ವಿಆರ್‌ಎಲ್‌ಡಿ ಲ್ಯಾಬ್ ನವೀಕರಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ (ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 23.86 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು) 2) ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾಲೇಜ ಕಟ್ಟಡದ ನವೀಕರಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ (ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 143.50 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು) ಈ ಎರಡು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಕೆಟಪಿಪಿ ನಿಯಮಾವಳಿಯ 2000ರ 28 ರಂತೆ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಲಾಗಿನ ಆಗಿ www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in ಪಡೆದು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದು. ಇನ್ನುಳಿದ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಖಚಿತಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಟೆಂಡರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗಬಹಿಸಬಹುದು. ಹಾಗೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಸದರಿ ಕಚೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

1) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಿಂದ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 27.07.2021
2) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪೂರ್ವ ಸಭೆ : 09.08.2021 ರ ಸಂಜೆ 4:00 ಗಂಟೆ 3) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ : 18.08.2021 ರ ಸಂಜೆ 4:30 ಗಂಟೆ 4) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ : 19.08.2021 ರ ಸಂಜೆ 4:30 ಗಂಟೆ

ಸಹಿ/- ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ

CUB TRUST AND EXCELLENCE SINCE 1904
CITY UNION BANK LIMITED
Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. E-Mail id : crmd@cityunionbank.in, Ph : 0435-2432322, Fax : 0435-2431746

RE-TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Re-Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.69,45,519/- (Rupees Sixty Nine Lakh Forty Five Thousand Five Hundred and Nineteen Only)** as on **12-02-2020** together with further interest to be charged from **13-02-2020** onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the borrowers / guarantors **No.1) Mrs. C. Praveena, W/o. Mr. C. Ravindranath Reddy, No.86, 3rd Cross, 3rd Main, Annayappa Layout, Sarakki Village, JP Nagar 1st Phase, Bangalore South, Bangalore - 560 078. No.2) Mr. C. Ravindranath Reddy, S/o. Mr. Mallikarjuna Reddy, No.86, 3rd Cross, 3rd Main, Annayappa Layout, Sarakki Village, JP Nagar 1st Phase, Bangalore, South Bangalore - 560 078.**

Immovable Properties Mortgaged to our Bank
(Properties Owned by Mrs. C. Praveena, W/o. Mr. C. Ravindranath Reddy)

Schedule - A:- All that piece and parcel of land bearing converted Sy.No.138/3, situated at Site No.200/1, in New BBMP Katha 1002/1199/1093/882/200/1, in Sy.No.138/3, situated at Sarvaboumanagar, Bilekahalli Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, measuring East to West - 120 ft., North to South - 80 ft., Totally measuring 9,600 Sq.ft. and Bounded on:- East by - 30 Feet Road, West by - Private Property, North by - 30 Feet Road, South by - 30 Feet Road.

Schedule - B:- An undivided 312 Sq.ft. share in the land comprised in the Schedule - A Property.

Schedule - C:- All that piece and parcel of the Flat bearing No.403 in the Fourth Floor, in the Residential Apartment known as Neha Legend, to be constructed on the Schedule - A Property, consisting of Living, Dining and Three Bed Rooms, having super built-up area of 1,450 Sq.ft., equipped with Flooring, Sanitary, Electricity Wiring and Other Facilities with Car Parking Space in the Stilt Floor.

Reserve Price: Rs.52,00,000/-
(Rupees Fifty Two Lakh Only)

RE-AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
12-08-2021	City Union Bank Limited, R.T. Nagar-Bangalore Branch, 590, HMT Layout, 4th Cross, R.T. Nagar, Bangalore - 560 032. Telephone No.080-23337000, Cell No.9342855177.

Terms and Conditions of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale :

(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself / herself. **(2)** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, R.T. Nagar-Bangalore Branch, 590, HMT Layout, 4th Cross, R.T. Nagar, Bangalore - 560 032. (3)** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 12.00 Noon** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. **(4)** For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact : **Telephone No.080-23337000, Cell No.9342855177. (5)** The propertylies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever- there is" basis. **(6)** The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **01.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. **(7)** The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the sale amount **immediately** on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. **(8)** The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **(9)** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges / fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. **(10)** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. **(11)** The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place: Kumbakonam, Date: 23-07-2021 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.** 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general Public, that, my Client, is intended to purchase the Schedule Property mentioned herein and herein after referred to as Schedule Property from its Owner, **Mrs. H T Sudha,** and if any of the Person, claiming right, title and interest over the property can file objections if any within 15 days of this notice to the below mentioned address and also the claims received after the specified time will not be entertained

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of property bearing **Site No. 4, Old Hebbal Notified Area Katha No. 652, New BBMP Katha No. 828/652/626/4,** developed in Converted survey No. 180/2B, vide Conversion Order No. B. Dis/ALN/SR (N) 185/89-90, dated 09/04/1990, ordered by Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South 30 Feet in total measuring 1200 Sq., Ft., situated at Kodigehalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, under the jurisdiction of BBMP, bounded on: **East By:** Private Property, **West By:** Road, **North By:** Property No. 3, **South By:** Property No. 5

Chandrashekar M, Advocate
No. 135, Sri Rama Commercial Complex, Near Halasuru Metro Station, Halasuru, Bangalore 560 008, Mob No. 9945302013
Dated 24/07/2021

QuoteExpress
IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING
WINSTON CHURCHILL

COUNCIL OF ARCHITECTURE
A Statutory Authority of Government of India
India Habitat Centre, Core 6A, Ist Floor, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003

NATA 2021

EXAMINATION NOTICE: NATA-2021

Subject:- Announcement of Third Test of NATA-2021

The Council of Architecture is pleased to announce that the Third Test of National Aptitude Test in Architecture (NATA) 2021 shall be conducted on September 3, 2021.

As per the Regulations of 2020, all candidates need to qualify an Aptitude Test conducted by the Council (i.e. NATA) for admission to B.Arch. course. Therefore, all candidates who have passed in any other aptitude test in Architecture conducted by other authorities shall also be required to qualify NATA in order to be eligible for admission to the B.Arch. course.

As per NATA 2021 Brochure, a candidate shall be allowed to appear for NATA 2021 only for a maximum of two times. Therefore, candidates who have not appeared in either one or both tests of NATA are eligible to register and appear for Third NATA Test. Further, those candidates who, after registering themselves for NATA, could not appear or remained absent in the either one or both tests of NATA due to any reason, may also register for Third NATA Test.

The NATA portal shall also be opened shortly to facilitate the students to register for Third NATA Test. The NATA-2021 Brochure with details of registration & other important dates for Third test shall be soon uploaded on the websites www.nata.in and www.coa.gov.in.

The eligible candidates desirous to take admission into 1st year of 5-year B.Arch. degree course are advised to register themselves for Third Test of NATA-2021.

July 25, 2021
New Delhi **Registrar**

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, DESIGN AND MANUFACTURING (IIITDM) KANCHEEPURAM,
(An Institute of National Importance established by Govt. of India)
Melakottaiyur, Vandalur - Kelambakkam Road
Chennai - 600 127, Tamil Nadu, India.

ENGAGEMENT OF GENERAL DUTY MEDICAL OFFICER
(On contract basis)
Advt. No. R/2(C)2021 dated : 20.07.2021

IIITDM Kancheepuram, located at Chennai (25km from airport) invites applications for the post of General Duty Medical Officer position (purely on Contract basis) from doctors who have retired from Central/State Govt/PSU/ Autonomous bodies. The application format and other details are available at www.iiitdm.ac.in

The last date for submission of application : 18.08. 2021

Registrar

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

NOTICE FOR APPOINTMENT OF *MAK*® LUBRICANTS DISTRIBUTORSHIP

Bharat Petroleum is a Fortune 500 ranked Public Sector Oil Company. We are the makers of ***MAK*® Lubricants** – one of the top lube brands in the country. ***MAK*® Lubricants** are approved by leading vehicle Manufacturers and has tie-ups with major OEMs (Original Equipment Manufacturers) for Genuine Oils. Our range of lubricants includes automotive & industrial lubricants, greases, gear oils, brake fluids and coolants. We wish to appoint Primary Lube Distributors (PLD) and Rural Lube Distributors (RLD) and Industrial Lube Distributors (ILD), to cover the markets in the States of **KARNATAKA.** The detailed advertisement is available in our website **www.bharatpetroleum.in → Tenders → View Tender → New Tenders → Select: Date From (25.07.2021) Due Date (24.08.2021) → Select Department: Lubricant Distributorship → Choose a Tender Type: Press → Open File "Southern Region Lubes Network Expansion 2021-22"**

Forms can be downloaded from the website which should be filled and submitted along with the applicable fees. Corrigendum, if any, will be published only in the website mentioned above.

Last date of submission of application: **24.08.2021 by 17:00 Hrs.**

Territory Manager (Lubes), Contact Details :
Bengaluru : 9987444998 Mangalore : 8805983737
Belagavi : 8051251006

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CL00437399

LOST

LOST

I, NEHA HUNASHIMARAD have lost my original Degree Certificate of BCA (Bachelor of Computer Application) Connotation bearing No. 06G1SB3008 Year & Month June - 2009 issued by Bangalore University. If any body found please contact - 8105124794.

CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SHARATH KUMAR J V** R/o no.05, Palace Cross Road Chakrvarthy Layout, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru - 560020 have changed my name to **SHARATH J V**, vide affidavit dated 24.07.2021, sworn before notary M.K.Devaki, Bangalore.

ANNOUNCEMENT

I, No: 14892113X, SEP/MT, DONE KARSIDDH BIRU, R/at YAMAGE, YAMAGE, KAGAL, MIRGUD, KOLHAPUR-416219, MAHARASHTRA. I state that in my service record my brother's name is wrongly mentioned as **DONE SANDIP BIRU** instead of his correct name is **DONE AVAGHADI SANDIP BIRU**, his Date of Birth 24-11-2001 vide affidavit dated 23.07.2021 before notary K V MANI, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, (OLD NAME) SYED MUNEER AHMED ZAHERA KHATOON, residing at No. 171/16, Central Cross Street, Neelasandra Vivek Nagar Post, Bangalore-560047, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) SYED MUNEER AHMED ZAHERA KHATOON** to **(NEW NAME) ZAHERA KHATOON SYED MUNEER AHMED** vide affidavit Dated 24/07/2021 sworn before Notary C.V.Earappa, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SHARAD PAWAR RAO,** S/o, Pawar Santoji Rao Narayana Rao, aged about 44 years, Residing at No.105, SBM Colony, Anand Nagar, Bangalore-560024, Karnataka, India, have changed my name from **NARAYANA RAO SHARAD PAWAR** (Old Name) to **SHARAD PAWAR RAO** (New Name), vide Affidavit dated:22-07-2021, Sworn before Advocate & Notary, M.S.Satish, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SUNIL ARAYAN SHARMA,** S/o, Satyanarayan Ram Sharma, aged about 47 years, Residing at No.7/1, 2nd Main Road, Palace Cross Road, Chandavarkar Layout, Bangalore-560020, Karnataka, India, have changed my name from **SUNIL SHARMA** (Old Name) to **SUNIL ARAYAN SHARMA** (New Name), vide Affidavit dated:22-07-2021, Sworn before Advocate & Notary, M.S.Satish, Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT

I, Sharath Babu .S. S/o. Late Subramani .P, Born and brought of in Bangalore I was called has by name Suresh babu .S in my family. As per my Pan Card no. BMCPB5832Q and Aadhar Card No. 974229463868 my name is Sharath Babu .S I here by confirming that both names **SURESH BABU .S** and **SHARTH BABU .S** Belongs to me. In coming days in all my Pan Card and Aadhar Card and Legal Documents my name will be Sharath Babu .S and notarized Sri K. Mohan on 22/07/2021 in Bangalore
Address : No. 12/5/1, 3rd Cross, New Kalappa Block, Ramachandrapuram, Bangalore-560021. M : 9743417599

AFFIDAVIT

I, **Manjushree Kunal Acharya,** W/o. **Kunal Acharya Amarnath,** aged about 38 years, R/at No. 580, 13th Main, 23rd Cross, Banashankari 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560070. have changed my daughter name from **"NISHA SUDHIR"** to **"TANVITHA SUDHIR"** vide affidavit dated 22-07-2021 sworn before notary Jayalingayya Mudenoormath, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **C.S. RAMESH,** No. 137, Channasandra Village, Kadugodi Post, Bengaluru-560 067, have Changed my daughter's Name from **Miss. PRIYANKA** to **Miss. VISMITHA PRIYANKA** vide affidavit dated 23.07.2021, sworn before notary G. Dayananda Bangalore.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Public at large are hereby informed that the Schedule Property had fallen to the share of our client **Mr. K. Sathyanarayana,** S/o. Late N.S. Krishnaiah Setty, residing at No.241, 3rd Main Road, Mahalakshmi Layout, Bangalore - 560086, as per Agreement dated 20th April 1997 by virtue of which partition has been effected amongst the family members. The Partition has been confirmed by Smt. K. Yashodamma and Mr. N.K. Aswathram under Deed of Confirmation dated 14/07/2005. Likewise, Mr. N.K. Shashidhar also executed Deed of Confirmation of Partition dated 18/09/2019 by confirming the Partition, effected under agreement dated 20/04/1997.

Thereafter, Mr.N.K.Aswathram, Mr.N.K.Shashidhar and Mr.K. Sathyanarayana have jointly sold 18,000 Sq.Ft out of the Schedule Property in favour of M/s Shell India Ltd.

Whereas, now Mr.N.K.Aswathram and Mr.N.K.Shashidhar are attempting to sell portion of the schedule property on the ground that they are the absolute owners of respective portions, even though, the Schedule Property is the property of a Partnership Firm Viz., M/s. Indian Furniture Works.

Moreover, the Schedule Property is also the subject matter in the Counter Claim in O.S.No.9070/2019, pending before the Hon'ble XX Addl., City Civil and Sessions Judge, at Bangalore (CCH-32).

Therefore, public at large are hereby warned that no one shall enter into any Agreement, Deed or conveyance with respect to the Schedule property or portion thereof and in the event of entering into any such things without the consent of our client Mr. K. Sathyanarayana, they will be doing so at their risks and consequences.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property being industrial Site bearing No.24, PID No.11-59-24, 3rd Main, Yeshwanthpura, Industrial Sub-Urb, Tumkuru Road, Bangalore - 560022, (excluding 18000 Sq.Ft sold in favour of M/s Shell India Ltd.,) totally measuring 80,600 Square Feet, allotted in favour of the Indian Furniture Works by the Bangalore Development Authority and bounded on the: -East by : Road, West by: C.A Area reserved for H.T Lane, North by: Road, South by : Site N.25 and Property sold to Shell.

Place: Bangalore
Date: 24.07.2021

M.G.C. & Co., Advocates and Solicitors
No.66, 4th Cross, Xavier Layout,
Behind Vijay Kiran Apartment,
Bangalore - 560047 Ph. No.25546276

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PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that my Client is the joint development agreement holder in respect of the properties being (1) 00-02 Guntas in Sy. No. 21/1, (2) 00-13 Guntas in Sy. No. 22/1 and (3) 1 Acre 20 ½ Guntas in Sy. No. 5/2, all properties situated at Billchikkanahalli Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk and which properties are more fully described in the Schedule written hereunder and hereinafter referred to as the 'Schedule 'A', 'B' and 'C' Properties'. My Client has represented to me that the original Absolute Sale Deed dated 22-09-2006 executed by Sri. Malliga Chari and others in favour of Smt. Sujathamma and registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal as Document No. ANK-1-21302 of 2006-07 and stored in C.D. No. ANKD161 of Book No. 1 in respect of the Schedule 'A' and 'B' Properties and original Absolute Sale Deed dated 18-09-2006 executed by Sri. H.S. Satisha and others in favour of Sri. V. Venkatesha Reddy and registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal on 07-08-2008 as Document No. ANK-1-01181 of 2008-09 and stored in C.D. No. ANKD217 of Book No. 1 are lost / misplaced and in spite of its best efforts, they are unable to trace the same and my Client has also lodged a police complaint on 20-07-2021 with Sarjapura Police Station, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District in respect of the same.

If any person/s find the aforesaid original Absolute Sale Deeds dated 22-09-2006 and 18-09-2006, they may hand over the same to the undersigned **within 10 (Ten) days** from the date of this publication and in the event the same is not found, my Client will treat the certified copies of the Absolute Sale Deed dated 22-09-2006 executed by Sri. Malliga Chari and Others in favour of Smt. Sujathamma in respect of the Schedule 'A' and 'B' Properties and Absolute Sale Deed dated 18-09-2006 executed by Sri. H.S. Satisha and others in favour of Sri. V. Venkatesha Reddy in respect of Schedule 'C' Property as original for all purposes.

SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the land bearing Sy. No. 21/1, measuring 00-02 Guntas (out of 19 Guntas), situated at Billchikkanahalli Village, (Handenahalli Panchayath), Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District and bounded on the:

East by : V. Muniswamy Reddy's Property, **West by** : V.Muniswamy Reddy's Property, **North by** : V.Muniswamy Reddy's Property, **South by** : Property bearing Sy. No. 22/1.

SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the land bearing Sy. No. 22/1, measuring 00-13 Guntas, situated in Billchikkanahalli Village, (Handenahalli Panchayath), Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District and bounded on the:

East by : V. Muniswamy Reddy's Property, **West by** : V.Muniswamy Reddy's Property, **North by** : Property bearing Sy. No. 22/1, **South by** : V.Muniswamy Reddy's Property.

SCHEDULE 'C' PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the land bearing Sy. No. 5/2, measuring 1 Acre 20 ½ Guntas, situated in Billchikkanahalli Village, (Handenahalli Panchayath), Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District and bounded on the:

East by : Property of Muniswamy Reddy, **West by** : Property of N. Krishna Reddy, **North by** : Muniswamy Reddy's Property, **South by** : Halla & Jayamma's Property.

A. B. Cariappa, Advocate
No. 154, III floor, Mallige Complex, K.H.B. Colony, 5th Block, Koramangala, Bangalore-560 095. Ph. 25634089, 9845700443

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PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform and caution the General Public that Smt. Aswathamma, W/o Muniyellappa, Govindappa, M. Nagaraj and M. Prakesh all are daughter and Sons of Late Munikaverappa, R/of Avalahalli Village, Huskur Post, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore-560099 have Enter Registered Joint Development Agreement Dt. 19-10-2020 with our clients Sri P. Srinivasareddy S/o Late M.P. Krishnareddy, R/o Panathur, Bangalore and Sri D. Krishna Reddy S/o D. Venkataswamy Reddy R/o Panathur, Bangalore, Reg as Document No. BSK-05011-2021, at Senior Sub-Registrar, Basavanagudi (Banashankari) Bangalore receiving huge sum of Non Refundable Security Deposit undertaking to comply varies conditions stipulated in the Document in respect of Schedule land detailed below, it is learnt afore said persons are making arrangements to sell or create third party interest on entire subject matter of JDA property, public is hereby cautioned Not to deal with aforesaid persons in any manner in respect of Schedule property here-in, if any such documents are entered those are not bind on our clients interest, our client reserve their right to take civil and criminal action's including claiming Damages.

SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of lands bearing **1)** Sy. No. 18/1, measuring: 0-16 guntas, **2)** Sy. No. 18/5, measuring: 0-17 guntas, **3)** Sy. No. 18/6, measuring: 0-21.08 Guntas (inclusive of 0-1.08 guntas of Kharab), **4)** Sy.No.18/7, measuring: 0-23.08 guntas (inclusive of 0-1.08 guntas of Kharab land), totally measuring: 1 acre 38 Guntas including 0.03 Guntas of Kharab land situated at Avahalli village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, and the same being bounded On **East by:** Land bearing Sy.No.78/1, **On West by:** Railway Track, **On North by:** Government Kere, **On South by:** Land of Kaverappa in Sy.No.4.

SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of lands bearing **1)** Sy.No:78/1, measuring: 0-38 guntas, **2)** Sy.No.78/7, measuring: 0-18 Guntas, and **3)** Sy.No.78/8, measuring: 1 Acre 16 Guntas, totally measuring: 2 acre 32 Guntas, situated at Avahalli village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, and the same being bounded **On East by:** Land of Parashappa in Sy.No.78/2 and Sy.No.78/3, **On West by:** Land of Piyappa in Sy.No.21/1, **On North by:** Land of Donnappa in Sy.No.22, **On South by:** Land of Venkatesh in Sy.No.12.

L.S. VENKATAKRISHNA AND ASSOCIATES
Sri N. Kumar, Advocate
Ph No. 98809 57415

SRI LAKSHMI MAHILA SAHAKARA BANK NIYAMITHA

"Lakshmi Sadana", No.3,4, East Anjaneya Temple Street, Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560004, Ph: 080 26614794

POSSESSION NOTICE (Under Rule 8(1)) (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Sri Lakshmi Mahila Sahakara Bank Niyamitha, having its Head office at Gandhi Bazaar, Bangalore-560004, being the secured creditor under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated:**04.11.2020** calling upon the following borrowers/guarantors to repay the amounts mentioned against their names within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice:

Sl.No.	A/c No.	Name of the Borrower	Name of the Guarantors	Outstanding
01	SPL 10206	**Sri Prakash K** S/o Sri Krishna Swamy No.1/2, Kaustubha, Vidyaranyapura, Ramachndrapura Main Road, C Ramaiah layout, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560097	**1. Smt Gayathri Prakash** W/o Sri Prakash K **2. Sri Abhijith P** S/o Sri Prakash K	**Rs.26,52,184-00** as on 22-07-2021 with further interest and other charges
02	SPL 10315	**Smt Gayathri Prakash** W/o Sri Prakash K No.1/2, Kaustubha, Vidyaranyapura, Ramachndrapura Main Road, C Ramaiah layout, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560097	**1. Sri Praksh K** S/o Sri Krishna Swamy. **2. Sri Abhijith P** S/o Sri Prakash K	**Rs.32,68,761-00** as on 22-07-2021 with further interest and other charges
		Total		**Rs.59,20,945-00**

The above Borrowers/Guarantors have failed to repay the balance outstanding liability, notice is hereby given to them and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read Rule 8 of the said rules on this day of **22-07-2021.**

The Borrowers/Guarantors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **SRI LAKSHMI MAHILA SAHAKARA BANK NIYAMITHA,** Gandhi Bazaar, Bangalore-560004 for the total outstanding liability of **Rs.59,20,945-00** only with further interest accrued thereon and other charges. The borrower's attention is invited to provision of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property belongs to Sri Praksh K bearing site No.1/2, CMC Khatha No.339, Sy No.33, situated at Ramachandrapura Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore, measuring East to West 42+44/2ft and North to South 50 ft, totally measuring 2150 sq.ft with building constructed thereon and bounded as follows: East by: Road, West by: Site No.2/2, North by: Road, South by: Private Property

Date :22.07.2021
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Sri Lakshmi Mahila Sahakara Bank Niyamitha, Bangalore

STATE BANK OF INDIA

RETAIL ASSETS CENTRAL PROCESSING CENTRE (RACPC) – I, BASAVANGUDI

Authorised Officer's Details:
Name: Smt.Cheluvamba,
Chief Manager,
E-mail Id:**mgrracpc.zoban@sbi.co.in**
Mobile No:+91 8296855666
Land Line No. (Office): 080-25943668

Address of the Branch:
No. 13/1, Kanaka's Pride, Bull Temple Road, Opp. Sri Rama Krishna Math, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru -560 004,
Manager (NPAM) : Sri M. Sreenivas, 9110492300
Tel No: 080 -2594 3145/46/3668, Tel Fax:080-25943367,
Email Id: mgrracpc.zoban@sbi.co.in

APPENDIX – IV A
[See proviso to Rule 8(6)]
E-AUCTION ON 13.08.2021
SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
(EXCLUDING MOVABLE ASSETS, IF ANY, LYING IN THE PREMISES)

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets (excluding movable assets, if any, lying thereon) under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6)and 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and the Borrower/Mortgagor in particular that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, State Bank of India, the actual physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of the Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis on **13.08.2021** for recovery of **Rs.69,57,579/-** (Rupees Sixty Nine Lakh Fifty Seven Thousand Five Hundred Seventy Nine Only) as on **21.07.2021** and further interest at contractual rate from **22.07.2021** with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc., due to the State Bank of India, from the Borrower/Mortgagor, **Smt. Geetha K Lakshman Rao**,W/o. Sri Muralidhar,No.22/1, 1st Floor, 1st Main,Near Surana College, Vijayarangam Layout, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru – 560 004, **Also at:** (i) No.41, Ground Floor,Mountain Street, I Block East,Jayanagar, Bengaluru – 560 011, (ii) F-01, 'Sri Sai Royal Residency', Kothanur Royal Comfy,Kothanur, Bengaluru – 560 062, (iii) Mrs. Geetha K Lakshman Rao,C/o. M/s. TEK Systems India Pvt. Ltd.,RMZ NXT Campus, IB Unit 401-402,4th Floor, EPIP Zone,Whitefield, Bengaluru – 560 066, (iv) Mrs. Geetha K Lakshman Rao, C/o. M/s. ALLEGIS Services (P) Ltd., Commerce @ Mantri Level -3,12/1, N.S. Palya, Bannerghatta Road,Bengaluru – 560 076.

The reserve price, earnest money deposit (EMD), bid increment, time & date of e-auction and last day for submission of EMD along with KYC documentsfor the property to be sold will be as under:

Reserve Price	EMD	Bid increment Amount	Time & Date of e-Auction	Last day for submission of EMD along with KYC documents
Rs.29,07,000/-	Rs.2,90,700/-	Rs.30,000/-	11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on 13.08.2021	11.08.2021 up to 4.00 p.m

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Tender No: SBI/GWR/6866/HL/2594/2021-22:

SCHEDULE –'A' PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of the immovable Residential Property being a vacant site bearing No.616, BBMP Khatha No.616, Kothanur, Royal County, New PID No.194-W0358-38, measuring East to West on Northern Side 42 feet (12.81 meters), East to West on Southern Side 40 feet (12.2 meters), North to South on Eastern Side 62.75 feet (19.13 Meters) and North to South on Western Side 64.5 feet (19.66 meters), in all measuring 2608 Square feet (242.36 Square Meters) carved out of Converted Land bearing Sy. Nos.8/3, 8/6, 13/1, 13/2, 16/2, 28/3, 30 (P), 31/1, 31/2, 31/3, 31/4, 31/5, 31/6A, 31/6B, 31/7, 31/10, 32/1, 32/2, 35/1, 35/2, 35/3, 36/4, 36/7 and 39/2 (duly converted from agricultural to non-agricultural residential purpose vide its Order Nos.B.DIS.ALN.SR(S)121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 130, 131, 133, 140 and 141/98-99 all dated 17/11/1999 and Order bearing No.B.DIS.ALN.SR(S)134 and 135/1999-2000 dated 11/02/2000 issued by Special Deputy Commissioner (Revenue), Bengaluru District, Bengaluru, in the layout known as "ROYAL COUNTY" situated at Kothanur Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, presently comes under the jurisdiction of Bruhat Bengaluru MahanagaraPalike, Ward No.194 – Anjanapura, together with all rights, appurtenances, whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and bounded on: East by: Site bearing No.615, West by: Site bearing No.617, North by: 3 Mtr. Pathway, South by: Road.

SCHEDULE –'B' PROPERTY: 216 Sq. ft. of undivided share, right, title and interest in the land comprising in Schedule –'A' Property, mentioned above together with Two Bedrooms Apartment bearing No.Fr.F-1 in the Fourth Floor measuring 1065 Sq. ft. of Super Built up Area with Vitrified Tiles Flooring and with One Car Parking Slot be the part of multistoried residential complex known as "SHRI SAI ROYAL" constructed at Schedule –'A' Property, standing in the name of Smt. Geetha K,W/o. Sri Muralidhar, vide Sale Deed registered as Document No.JAY-1-05218/2016-17 and CD No.JAYD268 dated 27.09.2016 at SRO, Jayanagar, Bengaluru.

STATUTORY 15 DAYS SALE NOTICE (2ND AUCTION) UNDER "SARFAESI" ACT,2002.

The Borrower/Mortgagor are hereby noticed to pay the sum mentioned above within 15days from the date of publication of this notice failing which the Bank shall sell the properties as per the provisions laid down in the SARFAESI ACT, 2002.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the links provided by the Secured Creditor, State Bank of India, RACPC -I, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru, represented by its Authorised Officer, i.e., (1) www.sbi.co.in (2) www.tenders.gov.in and (3)https://www.bankeauctions.com/Sbi.

Place: Bengaluru

Sd/-Authorised Officer
SBI, RACPC -I, Basavangudi, Bengaluru.

punjab national bank

CIRCLE OFFICE : RECOVERY DEPARTMENT,
SASTRA DIVISION BENGALURU,
100, Mosque Road, Frazer Town, Bangalore - 560005.
Phone : 080-25808908/8909. E-mail ID : cs8192@pnb.co.in.

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act(SARFAESI), 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property(ies) mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical/ symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Bank/ Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on the date as mentioned in the table herein below, for recovery of its dues due to the Bank/ Secured Creditor from the respective borrower (s) and guarantor (s). The reserve price and the earnest money deposit is mentioned in the table below against the respective properties.

The auction will be held on 12.08.2021 from 01.00 PM to 05.00 PM

SCHEDULE OF THE SECURED ASSETS

Sl. No.	Branch Name : Branch Contact No : A/c Name : A/c No :	Description of the property	SARFAESI Details possession	Outstanding Amount in Rs.	A) Reserve Price B) EMD C) Bid Increase Amount D) Encumbrances
1	Branch : Peenya 125100, Bangalore. **Mob : 9073678789** M/s Maruthi Packaging Industries **1251008700002961**	All that part and parcel of property in the name of Shri Ramaiah, S/o Muniyappa, bearing Survey No.103/1, Dasanapura Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore District within the limits of the Dasanapura Municipality Measuring 9801 sq ft out of total 2 acres and 2 guntas land bounded on **East by :** Property of Venkatappa, **West by :** Property in Sy No.112/1, **North by :** Property of Veerappa and **South by :** Property in Sy No.103/2.	13(2) 27.10.2016 13(4) 03.08.2017 Symbolic	**Rs.42,04,298/- Plus interest and other charges from the date of NPA**	**A) Rs.1,16,60,000/- B) Rs.11,66,000/- C) Rs.1,00,000/- D) No such information known to the best of knowledge of Authorized Officer. The Bidders are requested to do their own Due Diligence.**
2	Branch : Tumkur. **Mob : 9742091561** Mr. Chinna Rosaiah & Rathnamma **303200IB00015414 303200NC00011236**	All the piece and parcel of residential property with superstructures constructed on Site No.16, bearing Municipal Kaneshumari No.2472/2457/16, situated at Ward -18, Thammaiyappa Layout, Subhashnagar, Nelamangala Town, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore Rural District belongs to Chinnarosaiah & Rathnamma, Measuring East to west :40 feet and North to south :28 feet, total measuring 1120 Sq.Feet and bounded on **East by :** Property belonging to Ugrappa, **West by :** Road, **North by :** Property belonging to Lakkanna and **South by :** Property belonging to N Narasimhaiah Alias Thammaiah.	13(2) 17.01.2014 13(4) 24.06.2014 Symbolic	**Rs.47,95,104/- Plus interest and other charges from the date of NPA**	**A) Rs.55,20,000/- B) Rs.5,52,000/- C) Rs.50,000/- D) No such information known to the best of knowledge of Authorized Officer. The Bidders are requested to do their own Due Diligence.**
3	Branch : Yelahanka. **Mob : 9483513373** Mr. Devaraju & Mr. Arunachala, **08269011001730** Mr. Devaraju (Borrower/Mortgagor)	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Khata no.189, Khanishmari no.189 in the sy.no. of 26, Maranayakahalli, Jala Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore within the Sub Registrar office of Yelahanka, Standing in the name of Mr. Devaraj, S/o Shri. Chowdappa and bounded by on the **North by :** Road, **South by :** Govt. Land, **East by :** house belonging to Basavaraju and **West by :** House belonging to Shamrao. Boundaries of the property: North to South 40 feet and East to West 34 feet to the extent of 1360 sft which consist of RCC building (GF+FF) in apprx built up area of 1800sft.	13(2) 15.04.2013 13(4) 02.08.2013 Symbolic	**Rs.25,24,435/- plus interest & charges from the date of NPA**	**A) Rs.43,76,000/- B) Rs.4,38,000/- C) Rs.25,000/- D) No such information known to the best of knowledge of Authorized Officer. The Bidders are requested to do their own Due Diligence.**
4	Branch : Sadashivanagar, Bangalore. **Mob : 09704110055** Mr Nanjundaswamy N **106200NC00020736 1062009900000959** Mr Nanjundaswamy N (Borrower / Mortgagor)	All that piece and parcel of the residential property of Mr. Nanjundaswamy, situated at No.9, Municipal Corporation No.9, 10th Cross, 1st Phase, Gokula, Bangalore consisting of 3 floors (G +2) total 11 units land admeasuring East to West 40 ft and North to South (55+48)/2 ft in total 2060 sft plus structure thereon to the extent of 4800 sft total built up area and bounded on : **East by :** Property belongs to Venkatappa, **West by :** Private Property, **North by :** Property belongs to Ramareddy and **South by :** Road.	13(2) 03.04.2018 13(4) 06.09.2018 Symbolic	**Rs.1,18,51,627.00 Plus interest and other charges from the date of NPA**	**A) Rs.1,88,00,000/- B) Rs.18,80,000/- C) Rs.1,00,000/- D) No such information known to the best of knowledge of Authorized Officer. The Bidders are requested to do their own Due Diligence.**
5	Branch : Anand Nagar, Bangalore. **Mob : 9742317007** Mr Kanumilli Srinivasa Rao and Mrs. K Srividya. **156700NC00005942**	All that piece and parcel of Residential Apartment bearing Flat No.903, 9th Floor, Tower-2, having super built area of 1650 Sq Ft (1300 Square Feet + 350 Square feet of the open Balcony area) building known as "SINDHU AMAZON" constructed on property bearing Sy.No. 79/8, Bellandur, Bangalore - 560103, (Schedule A property) together with covered car parking space includes the proportionate share in the common area such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircase and other areas of common use, together with 400sqft of undivided share of right . title and interest and ownership in schedule A property.	13(2) 01.06.2019 13(4) 11.09.2019 Symbolic	**Rs. 97,58,000/- further interest till date from the date of NPA**	**A) Rs.82,00,000/- B) Rs.8,20,000/- C) Rs.50,000/- D) No such information known to the best of knowledge of Authorized Officer. The Bidders are requested to do their own Due Diligence.**
6	Branch : Anand Nagar, Bangalore. **Mob : 9742317007** Mr.Prashant Leo Francis & Pushpa Kumar **156700NC00005793**	Residential flat bearing No 303 and 304 having superbuilt up area of 2250 sqft in 3rd floor Neha legend apartment land bearing Site No.200/1, BBMP Khata No.1002/1199/1093/882/200/1, Sy No.138/3, Sarvaboumaanagar, Bilkehalli Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Presently comes under BBMP limits measuring East to West 120 feet and North to South 80 feet totally measuring 9600 sqft and bounded on the **East by :** 30 feet Road, **West by :** Private Property, **North by :** 30 feet Road, **South by :** 30 feet Road and undivided share of area measuring 506 sqft.	13(2) 02.07.2018 13(4) 11.10.2018 Physical	**Rs.1,64,05,000/- Plus interest and other charges from the date of NPA**	**A) Rs.1,46,39,000/- B) Rs.14,65,000/- C) Rs.1,00,000/- D) No such information known to the best of knowledge of Authorized Officer. The Bidders are requested to do their own Due Diligence.**
7	Branch : Anand Nagar, Bangalore. **Mob : 9742317007** M/s Dowac System and Project India Pvt Ltd **1567008700008240 156700NG00002554**	All that piece and parcel of property in the name of M/s Dowac Systems and Projects India Pvt Ltd , Near Big Bazaar on Ring Road, From Hebbal Fly Over to Tumkur Road Site No.13, Khatha No.109/A Nagashettihalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore and bounded by :- **East by :** Road, **West by :** Smt Lakshmi Sampath Property, **North by :** Remaining portion of the same Property and **South by :** Other Property.	13(2) 17.05.2017 13(4) 02.08.2017 Physical	**Rs.92,09,000/- Plus interest and other charges from the date of NPA**	**A) Rs.1,14,00,000/- B) Rs.11,40,000/- C) Rs.1,00,000/- D) No such information known to the best of knowledge of Authorized Officer. The Bidders are requested to do their own Due Diligence.**
8	Branch : Rajaji Nagar, Bangalore. **Mob : 7259009358** Mr.Eshwar S H (Borrower & Mortgagor) **4080009900000424 408000NC00005299**	All that part and parcel of RCC roofed Flat No. S.F No.10, Stilt Floor, in "Eshwari Enclave" Apartment measuring 1292 SqFt. of super built area, bearing Property No.45, South Block, constructed under Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagar Palike having PID No.96-310-45, Ward No.96, situated at 8th 'A' Cross, Kanaka Nagar, Bangalore (Formerly being portions of Survey No.28/4, Vishwanatha Nagenahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, within Revenue Administrative Jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagar Palike) under Gandhinagar (Kacharakanahalli).	13(2) 03.07.2019 13(4) 17.09.2019 Symbolic	**Rs.44,79,000/- Plus interest and other charges from the date of NPA**	**A) Rs.37,00,000/- B) Rs.3,70,000/- C) Rs.25,000/- D) No such information known to the best of knowledge of Authorized Officer. The Bidders are requested to do their own Due Diligence.**
9	Branch : Peenya (125100), Bangalore. **Mob : 9073678789** M/s Sansu Technologies Private Limited & Sankar K **1251008700003599 125100IB00061564 125100SG00000443 1251009900000182**	Premier Gruhalakshmi apartments Flat No A /101, First Floor, A Block Peenya Village, Yashwantpura Hobli, Jalahalli Cross, Bangalore North Tq 560058 with plinth area of 644 sft with UDS of 596 sft. In the name of K Shanakar S/o S P Krishnan.	13(2) 31.10.2019 13(4) 09.01.2020 Symbolic	**Rs.1,18,44,624/- Plus interest and other charges from the date of NPA**	**A) Rs.38,64,000/- B) Rs.3,86,000/- C) Rs.25,000/- D) No such information known to the best of knowledge of Authorized Officer. The Bidders are requested to do their own Due Diligence.**
10	Branch : Yelahanka. **Mob : 9483513373** Mr Mohd. Ayub Hussain **11229011000458**	Flat No-DG-57, Ground Floor, D-Block, ITTINA NEELA APARTMENT, Andhapura Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District. Flat admeasuring 550 Sq. Ft and bounded on : **East by :** Property with Sy .No-46 & 5/4, **West by :** Property bearing No Sy No-49 & 5/1, **North by :** Property bearing Sy No-5/2,5/4 & 5/5, **South by :** Property bearing Sy No-45.	13(2) 22.04.2009 13(4) 11.11.2009 Physical	**Rs.47,15,000/- Plus interest and other charges from the date of NPA**	**A) Rs.14,00,000/- B) Rs.1,40,000/- C) Rs.10,000/- D) No such information known to the best of knowledge of Authorized Officer. The Bidders are requested to do their own Due Diligence.**
11	Branch : Peenya (125100), Bangalore. **Mob : 9073678789** M/s S & S Infra Management Services (Smt. K B Pratibha - Mortagagor) **1251008700003243 125100SG00000249**	All that piece and parcel of Residential Apartment Bearing No B102, 1st Floor, Concorde Midway City, Sy No 20, Basapura Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, consisting of 2 BHK with carpet area of 1161 Sft, plinth area of 1451 Sft and UDS of land 799.36 sq ft standing in the name of Mrs K B Prathiba and bounded by **East by :** Road, **West by** land of Sy No.22, **North by :** land of Sy No.18 and **South by :** land of Sy No.21/2.	13(2) 25.04.2018 13(4) 09.08.2018 Symbolic	**Rs 3,16,20,716/- Plus interest and other charges from the date of NPA**	**A) Rs.91,06,000/- B) Rs.9,10,000/- C) Rs.1,00,000/- D) No such information known to the best of knowledge of Authorized Officer. The Bidders are requested to do their own Due Diligence.**
12	Branch : Mallleswaram, (126100), Bangalore. **Mob : 9994259010** M/s Global Trading Company **1261008700001855** Dr Akella Arun Kumar (Mortgagor)	All that part and parcel of the property bearing non residential/industrial property bearing municipal no 11/4 (formally bearing site no-9 khata no 321 situatated at Shri Manjunatha Swamy Industrial Layout, Magadi Main Road, Bangalore (formally Kamakshi Palya, Saneguruvinahalli Village, Yeswathpura Hubli, Bangalore North Taluk) now under BBMP Khatha No 11/4 in ward No 17 PID No 17-22-11/4 measuring East West (66+69)/2 North South 58 feet in all measuring 3915 sq feet and bounded on the **East by :** Property belongs to Shri Chikka puttaya, **West by :** 20 feet Road, **North by :** Private Property and **South by :** Property bearing Site No.10.	13(2) 19.12.2016 13(4) 28.03.2017 Symbolic	**Rs 3,52,78,269 /- plus interest from NPA date and other charges**	**A) Rs.3,18,05,000/- B) Rs.31,81,000/- C) Rs.3,00,000/- D) No such information known to the best of knowledge of Authorized Officer. The Bidders are requested to do their own Due Diligence.**
13	Branch : Mallleswaram, (126100), Bangalore. **Mob : 9994259010** M/s Ravi Oil Traders Dr Akella Arun Kumar (Mortgagor) **1261008700001828**	01) Property No.1314/2A, Khata No.282 situated at Rajarajeshwari CMC, Mallatahalli Village, Yeshawantapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, admeasuring East to West (85+60)/2 and North to South (60+50)/2 in total 3987.50 sft and bounded on **East by :** 80 ft Road, **West by :** Private Property, **North by :** Property of Sh Muthu Raya Reddy and **South by :** Property belongs to N Naarayanappa. 02) Property No.1315/2B, Khata No.281, situated at Rajarajeshwari CMC Mallatahalli Village, Yeshawantapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, admeasuring East to West (90+65)/2 and North to South (40+55)/2 in total 3487.50 sft and bounded on **East by :** Schedule A property, **West by :** 30ft wide Road, **North by :** Property of Sh Muthu Raya Reddy and **South by :** Property belongs to N Naarayanappa.	13(2) 21.03.2017 13(4) 17.07.2018 Symbolic	**Rs.3,99,99,676/- plus interest from NPA date and other charges**	**A) Rs.5,98,00,000/- B) Rs.59,80,000/- C) Rs.5,00,000/- D) No such information known to the best of knowledge of Authorized Officer. The Bidders are requested to do their own Due Diligence.**
14	Branch : Mallleswaram, (126100), Bangalore. **Mob : 9994259010** M/s Om Sainath Traders Dr Akella Arun Kumar (Mortgagor) **1261008700001819**	Property bearing Khatha No.1248 and House List No.1312/1, Rajarajeshwari CMC Khatha No.280, BBMP Khatha No.294/288/42/89/13132/1, Property No.1312/1, Mallathahalli Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk. Admeasuring East to West (40+25)/2 and North to South (125+92)/2 in total 3,526.25 S.ft and Bounded on **East by :** 80 Feet Road, **West by :** 30 Feet Road, **North by :** Private Property, **South by :** 40 Feet Road.	13(2) 24.03.2017 13(4) 19.07.2018 Symbolic	**Rs 2,60,54,232/- plus interest from NPA date and other charges**	**A) Rs.2,82,10,000/- B) Rs.28,21,000/- C) Rs.2,00,000/- D) No such information known to the best of knowledge of Authorized Officer. The Bidders are requested to do their own Due Diligence.**
15	Branch : Peenya (125100), Bangalore. **Mob : 9073678789** M/s S & S Infra Management Services Sri Byataraya (Mortgagor) **1251008700003243 125100SG00000249**	All that part and parcel of the house No.24, Property No.19/1, 548/1,1/19/1/A, Khata No 487, Arakere Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore East to West (40.5+40)/2 ft and North to South 30 ft, admeasuring 1207.50 sft and bounded on the : **East by :** Remaining part of the same property (Site No.1), **West by :** 25 ft Road, **North by :** Remaining part of the same Property (Site No.23) **South by :** Remaining part of the same property (Site No 24). stands in the name of Sri Byataraya.	13(2) 25.04.2018 13(4) 09.08.2018 Symbolic	**Rs.3,16,20,716/- Plus interest and other charges from the date of NPA**	**A) Rs.1,25,20,000/- B) Rs.12,52,000/- C) Rs.1,00,000/- D) No such information known to the best of knowledge of Authorized Officer. The Bidders are requested to do their own Due Diligence.**
16	Branch : Yelahanka, (082610), Bangalore. **Mob : 9483513373** M/s Sri Kalikadevi Kalyanamandapa and Bhojanalaya, Sri D Krishnappa (Mortgagor) **08269011001723**	All that piece and parcel of the property consist of land and building pertaining to old Survey No.64, New no.145, old Sy.No.76 and new no.146, Chikkajala Village, Jala Hobli, Yelahanka, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore within the Sub registrar office Jala Standing in the name of Shri. D.M.Krishnappa S/o Shri. Munishamappa and bounded by on **North by :** Akkayamma Betta, **South by :** Road, **East by :** Akkayamma Betta, **West by :** Akkayamma Betta to the extent of 1 Acre or 43560 sft which includes RCC building (GF+FF) with an approximate built up area of 3000 sft.	13(2) 15.04.2013 13(4) 20.08.2013 Symbolic	**Rs.52,98,636/- Plus interest and other charges from the date of NPA**	**A) Rs.4,99,79,000/- B) Rs.49,98,000/- C) Rs.5,00,000/- D) No such information known to the best of knowledge of Authorized Officer. The Bidders are requested to do their own Due Diligence.**

Govindaraja temple gopuram to be gold-plated

ENS @Tirupati

THE Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) will take up gold plating of Sri Govindaraja Swamy temple gopuram. About 100 kg of gold worth ₹32 crore from the TTD treasury will be used for the purpose. The works will begin on September 14 and they are expected to be completed by May, 2022. TTD Executive Officer KS Jawahar Reddy held a meeting with officials at Govindaraja Swamy temple on Saturday to discuss the gold plating project. Pontiffs of Tirumala, advisors on Vaikhanasa Agama Shastra and archakas also participated in the meeting.

In September, 2019, the TTD decided to gold-plate gopurams of Sri Bhu Varaha Swamy temple at Tirumala and Sri Govindaraja Swamy temple in Tirupati. Earlier, it was decided to close the temple for a few days to facilitate the gold plating. Now, Balalayam will be constructed to perform daily rituals to the presiding deity during gold-plating without closing the temple. Devotees, however, will be allowed to have Darshan of Lord Govindaraja Swamy in the sanctum sanctorum during the works, the EO said.

Vehicles struggle to cross a bridge on NH 163 in Warangal Rural district as Katakshapur Lake overflows on Saturday | EXPRESS

FURIOUS GODAVARI CALMS DOWN, RAINS RECEDE IN TS

Light to moderate rainfall in store; situation grim in Bhadrachalam

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Khammam/Hyderabad

IN what will be a big relief for the people of Bhadrachalam and other areas downstream of Godavari river, inflow into the river at Sri Rama Sagar Project (SRSP) in Nizamabad has drastically decreased, and so has the outflow from the project, thus decreasing the chances of severe flooding downstream.

The rate of inflow at SRSP around 3 pm on Friday afternoon was as much as 2,15,667 cusecs, which decreased to 50,980 cusecs by 7 pm on Saturday. Similarly, rate of outflow from the project was 2 lakh cusecs through 33 RC gates and 6,000 cusecs at the GENCO power station. The outflow on Saturday was nil through the gates and 8,000 cusecs through the GENCO power station.

The forecast was another good news for people in the State worried about heavy rains, especially those in the north Telangana districts which faced flooding of rivers due to heavy rains. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast that there would only be light (2.5 mm to 15.5 mm) to moderate (15.6 mm to 64.4 mm) rainfall or thundershowers on Sunday and over the next couple of days, at isolated places in a few districts. There is no forecast of heavy rains anywhere in the State for the next four days.

Agency areas in Godavari dist cut off

Rajamahendravaram/Vijayawada: With heavy inflows into Godavari, Agency areas in East and West Godavari districts have been completely cut off from the rest of the world Flood level in the river at Polavaram cofferdam is steadily increasing. The second flood warning was issued at Bhadrachalam in Telangana, upstream of Polavaram, with the water level crossing 48 feet. The water level may increase further by Sunday. **ENS**

Education takes hit, many teachers yet to be relieved of Covid duties

PEARL MARIA D'SOUZA @Bengaluru

GOVERNMENT school teachers are concerned about the academic progress of students in the new academic year as education has been affected for the last one-and-a-half years due to the Covid pandemic.

Though schools are yet to open physically, teachers are working with a timetable issued by the education department since July 1 to ensure continuation of education for students through online classes. But teachers are worried as several of them are yet to be relieved from Covid duties.

"I attend my Covid duties during the day, and take up classes in the evening between 6 pm and 9 pm as per the timetable prepared by my school," said a teacher from a government high school.

She said that till now, she taught Class 10 students, who just finished their examinations, and from next week, she is expected to hold more classes for an additional number of hours for students from lower grades.

"It is our duty to ensure that students learn all subjects and do not miss out," she said. HK Manjunath, president, Karnataka State High School Association, said there are several such cases across the State and teachers are yet to be relieved from Covid duties.

In BBMP limits, nearly 50 per cent of 9,000 teachers continue to attend to Covid duties. "Both the teachers' association and education department officials have been demanding that they be relieved," he added.

"Over 50 per cent of teachers' posts are lying vacant, including one of headmistress. The existing staff have been working doubly hard as half of us are yet to join back work. We have been overburdened as admissions too are occurring at the same time," said a government school teacher.

Karnataka State Teachers-Employees Welfare Association president Basavaraj Gurikar said all teachers are expected to be relieved of Covid duties in a week.

DOING THEIR BIT

Karnataka Forest Department officials, along with 350 volunteers from Bengaluru, Mysuru and Chamarajanagar, cleared six tonnes of plastic waste, along 35 km in MM Hills wildlife sanctuary on Saturday | EXPRESS

Eve-teasers, drug peddlers will be dealt with iron fist: Top cop

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

POLICE Commissioner **Kamal Pant** on Saturday said the police will deal with eve-teasers, drug peddlers, and vagabonds with an iron fist.

He was interacting with the public on the occasion of Masika Janasamparka Divasa, at Nandini Layout police station, on Saturday.

A participant informed him that vagabonds standing in public places indulge in smoking and eve-teasing in the locality. Responding to his concern, Pant said the police won't tolerate such behaviour and those who indulge in such activities will be dealt with strictly.

Another resident brought to his notice that ganja smoking was rampant in the area. Taking note of this, the commissioner said the city police had waged a war against drug peddling and was cracking down on peddlers. "Not only those who sell drugs but also the consumers will be booked under the NDPS Act. We will increase patrolling in places where drugs are sold and consumed and book those involved in such activities," he added.

He also warned those who park vehicles in residential areas obstructing the movement of other vehicles and people. "In the coming days, we will initiate action against vehicle owners who park their vehicles irresponsibly in residential neighbourhoods," he added.

Land given to SC, STs ceases to be granted property if diverted: HC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

IN a landmark judgement, the Karnataka High Court held that once the land granted to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is diverted, it ceases to be a 'granted land' under the provisions of the Karnataka Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prohibition of Transfer of Certain Lands) Act, 1978 (PTCL Act).

With this, the requirement of obtaining prior permission from the government under Section 4(2) of the Act to transfer/acquisition by transfer of a diverted land does not arise, as the permission has to be obtained only in respect of 'granted land', the court added.

The full bench of Justices Alok Aradhe, Sachin Shankar Magadum and M Nagaprasanna said that the issue of whether an order of conversion passed by a deputy commissioner under Section (95) of the Karnataka Land Revenue Act, 1964 can be construed as prior permission by the government, satisfying the requirements under Section 4(2) of the PTCL Act, does not arise in case of diverted lands.

The petitioners, Munnaiah and 12 others belonging to Schedule Caste, had filed a petition before a single judge against the order passed by the deputy commissioner in respect of 5.3 acres at Meenukunte village in Devanahalli taluk.

The land contained a condition with regard to non-alienation. After the death of the father of one of the petitioners, they sold it in 1996 without obtaining prior permission from the government.

As the assistant commissioner restored the land in favour of the petitioners, the purchaser filed an appeal before the deputy commissioner, who held that the order of grant does not carry any restriction of alienation and the land was granted to the predecessor of the petitioners, and the appeal was allowed. Against this order, the petitioners had approached the high court.

The reference to the full bench arose from an order dated May 19, 2021 passed by the single judge.

PVT SCHOOLS READY TO OPEN ON AUG 2

PEARL MARIA D'SOUZA @Bengaluru

If parents are reluctant to send their children to school, then the government must ensure that adequate facilities are available with them to engage through the online mode

Private schools representatives

PRIVATE schools in the state are ready to open up from August 2. And they have recommended to the government, which is collecting the opinion of stakeholders on reopening of schools, to allow all schools to reopen at the same time. They are also pushing for vaccination of all teachers, support staff and SDMC members before the commencement of schools.

Earlier, Primary and Secondary Education Minister S Suresh Kumar had said that the decision on school reopening will be announced in the coming week. In case opening all classes is not possible, the schools have recommended that the government consider simultaneous opening of pre-primary and lower primary on August 2, followed by Class 6 and above by August 9.

They have come up with a workable timetable for schools based on their enrolments. One teacher per classroom needs to be ensured for pre-primary and primary classes, and no classroom should be left unattended. Schools have also asked the government to reduce and revise the curriculum to ensure optimum learning levels, and modify the academic year and calendar to plug the learning gap.

EXPRESS READ

Justice Aravind Kumar nominated member of NALSA

Bengaluru: Senior judge of Karnataka High Court and Executive Chairman of the Karnataka State Legal Services Authority Justice Aravind Kumar has been nominated as the Member of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), by the Chief Justice of India. According to the notification issued by the Ministry of Law and Justice, the Central Government nominated Justice Aravind Kumar as member of NALSA, in consultation with the Chief Justice of India. Justice Aravind Kumar elevated as Additional Judge, High Court of Karnataka on June 26, 2009 and as permanent Judge on December 12, 2012. **ENS**

Dr Chauhan is new GITAM Chancellor

Bengaluru: Noted genetic engineering and biotechnology scientist and former Chairman of University Grants Commission, and Padma Shri awardee Dr Virander Singh Chauhan has been appointed as Chancellor to GITAM Deemed-to-be University at Nagadenahalli in Doddaballapur. He succeeds Prof K Ramakrishna Rao. GITAM President M Sribharath gave the appointment letter to Dr Chauhan on Saturday. He is known for his contributions towards developing a recombinant vaccine for malaria. An alumnus of DU, he began his career at St Stephen's College, from where he went to Oxford on a Rhodes scholarship. **ENS**

Sl. No.	Branch Name : Branch Contact No : A/c Name : A/c No :	Description of the property	SARFAESI Details possession	Outstanding Amount in Rs.	A) Reserve Price B) EMD C) Bid Increase Amount D) Encumbrances
17	Branch : Sadashivnagar, Bangalore. **Mob : 7022038125** M/s Babu Traders **10844015004281**	All that piece and parcel of the residential plot-open site with No-B-14, Kaneshmari No.97/90/B-14, Sy No-79 of Aralasandra Village, Kasaba Hobli, Nelamangal Taluk, Bangalore - Rural owned by P. Ravi kumar admeasuring 5100 sq ft (60x85) East to West 60 ft North to South 85 ft and bounded on the **East by :** Site No.B-15, West by : Site No.B-13, **North by :** Open Park, **South by :** Road.	13(2) 06.08.2018 13(4) 15.12.2018 Symbolic	**Rs.53,39,557/- Plus interest and other charges from the date of NPA**	**A) Rs.42,04,000/- B) Rs.4,21,000/- C) Rs.25,000/- D) No such information known to the best of knowledge of Authorized Officer. The Bidders are requested to do their own Due Diligence.**
18	Branch : Sahakar Nagar, Bangalore. **Mob : 8790031310** Mr.Vikesh Divakaran Mrs. Deepika Divakaran & M/s Aster Udyam Pvt Ltd **11227011000386 11226016001287 11224015001862**	Flat No. 302 & 302A, named as 2302, Block 2, lower and upper 3rd floor, Anriya Dwellington, 6th Cross, 1st Main MLA Layout, Lotegolahalli, Bangalore - 560094 belongs to Vikesh Diwakaran, admeasuring 1956 sqft (1401+555) (along with 712 Sq ft of right over Terrace area) with a car parking area in basement, Boundaries - **East by :** Block I building, **West by :** Entrance to flat and lobby, **North by :** Open to Sky, **South by :** Flat No. 2303.	13(2) 06.09.2019 13(4) 22.11.2019 Symbolic	**Rs.85,24,180/- Plus interest and other charges from the date of NPA**	**A) Rs.1,60,00,000/- B) Rs.16,00,000/- C) Rs.2,00,000/- D) No such information known to the best of knowledge of Authorized Officer. The Bidders are requested to do their own Due Diligence.**
19	Branch : RMV Extension, Bangalore. **Mob : 7259009359** M/s Bright Enterprises **3625008700001613**	All that piece & parcel of the property with superstructures thereon on land bearing kaneshmari No.14, VP Khata No.14, situated at Malagalu Village, Yeshwantpur Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk Bangalore- now coming under jurisdiction of Rajarajeshwari Nagar CMC, Khata No.14/14, Ward No. 6-measuring East to West : 35 feet & North to South : 52 feet (totally measuring 1820 sqft) and bounded on : **East by :** 8 feet passage & Puttaiah's Property, **West by :** Shubamangala Kalyan Mantap & Subboji's Property, **North by :** Obballappa's Property and **South by :** Narasimhaiah's Property.	13(2) 19.09.2013 13(4) 11.12.2013 Symbolic	**Rs.29,97,762/- plus interest & charges from the date of NPA**	**A) Rs.63,70,000/- B) Rs.6,37,000/- C) Rs.50,000/- D) No such information known to the best of knowledge of Authorized Officer. The Bidders are requested to do their own Due Diligence.**
20	Branch : RMV Extension, Bangalore. **Mob : 7259009359** M/s Proway International **362500IC00000062 362500JA00000049 362500JK00004559**	Residential property at Site No. 26/5, Khata No. 68, Herohalli Grama panchayath, Herohalli Village, Yeshwantpur Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, belongs to Sri L.Narasimhamurthy, with land measuring East to West : 30 feet & North to South : 45 feet, (admeasuring 1350 sq ft.) and bounded on : **East by :** Road & Private, **West by :** Drain, **North by :** Private Property and **South by :** Remaining portion of the property measuring 33*15 ft.	13(2) 31.12.2012 13(4) 12.03.2013 Symbolic	**Rs.28,32,380/- plus interest & charges from the date of NPA**	**A) Rs.24,00,000/- B) Rs.2,40,000/- C) Rs.10,000/- D) No such information known to the best of knowledge of Authorized Officer. The Bidders are requested to do their own Due Diligence.**

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF E-AUCTION SALE :
1. The sale shall be subject to the Terms & Conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 and to the following further conditions. (1) The auction sale will be "online through e-auction" portal **http://www.mstcecommerce.com**
2. The intending Bidders/ Purchasers are requested to register on portal (https:www.mstcauction.com) using their mobile number and email-id. Further, they are requested to upload requisite KYC documents. Once the KYC documents are verified by e-auction service provider (may take 2 working days), the intending Bidders/ Purchasers has to transfer the EMD amount using online mode in his Global EMD Wallet before the e-auction Date and time in the portal. The registration, verification of KYC documents and transfer of EMD in wallet must be completed well in advance, before auction date.
3. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) amount as mentioned above shall be paid online through 3 mode i.e. NEFT/ Cash/ Transfer (After generation of Challan from (https:www.mstcecommerce.com) in bidders Global EMD Wallet. NEFT transfer can be done from any Scheduled Commercial Bank, however for Cash/ Transfer the bidder has to visit Punjab National Bank Branch. Payment of EMD by any other mode such as Cheques will not be accepted. Bidders, not depositing the required EMD online, will not be allowed to participate in the e-auction. The Earnest Money Deposited shall not bear any interest.
4. Platform **(https:www.mstcecommerce.com)** for e-Auction will be provided by e Auction service provider M/S MSTC Limited having its Registered office at 225-C, A.J.C. Bose Road, Kolkata700020 (contact Phone & Toll free Numbers 079-41072412/ 411/ 413 or 1800-103-5342). The intending Bidders/ Purchasers are required to participate in the e-Auction process at e-Auction Service Provider"s website **https:www.mstcecommerce.com**. This Service Provider will also provide online demonstration/ training on e-Auction on the portal.
5. The Sale Notice containing the General Terms and Conditions of Sale is available / published in the following websites/ web page portal. **(1) https://www.ibapi.in (2) https://eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app (3) http://www.mstcecommerce.com/. (4) www.pnbindia.in,**
6. The intending participants of e-auction may download free of cost, copies of the Sale Notice, Terms & Conditions of e-auction,Help Manual on operational part of e-Auction related to this eAuction from e-e-Bकक्ष- IBAPI portal (https://www.ibapi.in).
7. The intending Bidders / Purchasers are requested to register on portal (https:www.mstcauction.com) using their mobile number and email-id. Further, they will upload the requisite KYC documents. Once the KYC documents are verified by e-auction service provider (may take 2 working days),the intending Bidders/Purchasers has to transfer the EMD amount using online mode in his Global EMD Wallet. Only after having sufficient EMD in his Wallet, the interested bidder will be able to bid on the date of e-auction.
8. Bidder's Global Wallet should have sufficient balance (>=EMD amount) at the time of bidding.
9. During the e-auction bidders will be allowed to offer higher bid in inter-se bidding over and above the last bid quoted and the minimum increase in the bid amount must be as **mentioned against each properties** to the last higher bid of the bidders. Ten minutes time will be allowed to bidders to quote successive higher bid and if no higher bid is offered by any bidder after the expiry of ten minutes to the last highest bid, the e- auction shall be closed.
10. It is the responsibility of intending Bidder(s) to properly read the Sale Notice, Terms & conditions of e-auction, Help Manual on operational part of e-Auction and follow them strictly.
(1) In case of any difficulty or need of assistance before or during e-Auction process may contact authorized representative of our e-Auction Service Provider (https: http://www.mstcecommerce.com/). Details of which are available on the e-Auction portal.
11. After finalization of e-Auction by the Authorized Officer, only successful bidder will be informed by our above referred service provider through SMS/ email. (On mobile no/ email address given by them/ registered with the service provider).
12. The secured asset will not be sold below the reserve price.
13. The successful bidder shall have to deposit 25% (twenty five percent) of the bid amount, less EMD amount deposited, on the same day or not later than the next working day and the remaining amount shall be paid within 15 days from the date of auction in the form of Banker's Cheque/ Demand Draft issued by a Scheduled Commercial Bank drawn in favour of "The Authorized Officer, Punjab National Bank, A/c (Name of the A/C) Payable at In case of failure to deposit the amounts as above within the stipulated time, the amount deposited by successful bidder will be forfeited to the Bank and Authorized Officer shall have the liberty to conduct a fresh auction/ sale of the property & the defaulting bidder shall not have any claim over the forfeited amount and the property.
14. Payment of sale consideration by the successful bidder to the bank will be subject to TDS under Section 194- 1A of Income Tax Act 1961 and TDS is to be made by the successful bidder only at the time of deposit of remaining 75 % of the bid amount/full deposit of BID amount.
15. The Authorised Officer reserves the right to accept any or reject all bids, if not found acceptable or to postpone/cancel/adjourn/discontinue or vary the terms of the auction at any time without assigning any reason whatsoever and his decision in this regard shall be final.
16. The sale certificate shall be issued in the favour of successful bidder on deposit of full bid amount as per the provisions of the act.
17. The properties are being sold on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS".**
18. The particulars of Secured Assets specified in the Schedule hereinabove have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorised Officer, but the Authorised Officer shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in this proclamation.
19. It shall be the responsibility of the bidders to inspect and satisfy themselves about the asset and specification before submitting the bid. The bidder inspect the property in consultation with the dealing official as per the details provided.
20. All statutory dues/attendant charges/other dues including registration charges, stamp duty, taxes etc. shall have to be borne by the purchaser.
21. **The Authorized Officer or the Bank shall not be responsible for any charge, lien, encumbrances, or any other dues to the Government or anyone else in respect of properties (E-Auctioned) not known to the bank. The Intending Bidder is advised to make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances on the property including statutory liabilities, arrears of property tax, electricity dues etc.**
22. The bidder should ensure proper internet connectivity, power back-up etc. The Bank shall not be liable for any disruption due to internet failure, power failure or technical reasons or reasons/contingencies affecting the e-auctions.
23. It is open to the Bank to appoint a representative and make self bid and participate in the auction. For detailed term and conditions of the sale, please refer https://www.ibapi.in, https://eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app, http://www.mstcecommerce.com/, www.pnbindia.in.

Place : Bangalore
Date : 23.7.2021

Sd/-
AUTHORISED OFFICER & CHIEF MANAGER
PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK (SECURED CREDITOR)

Don't be the best in town. Just try to be the best until the best come around

Buddy Guy

SURREALISM AND THE STATE OF THE UNION

SURREALISM is a permanent invitee in India's political economy — and systemic creativity is on exhibition in every session of Parliament.

The first week of the monsoon session produced a masterpiece. The government informed Parliament that "No deaths due to lack of oxygen has been specifically reported by states/UTs". In art, surrealism is about unleashing the creative potential of an unconscious mind by means of irrational juxtapositions and combinations. In India's political economy, surrealism is the outcome of conscious obfuscation of inadequacies.

The technically correct (after all the Union Government only conveys what States report) and politically disastrous articulation reflects the pervasion of apathy and insensitivity. Such is the state of affairs that the bureaucracy has erased the distinction between data and information, between deniability and denial.

Can words camouflage the distressing images of the three months, of plaintive pleas for help, the fact that no less than six ministries of government were scrambling for oxygen supplies? Why would governments — union and states — deny validation of causality for the grief stricken?

THE THIRD EYE

SHANKKAR AIYAR
Author of The Gated Republic, Aadhaar: A Biometric History of India's 12 Digit Revolution, and Accidental India
shankkar.aiyar@gmail.com

And it is not just about Covid deaths. Studies estimate every year air pollution claims over half a million lives. On July 23, Lok Sabha MP Rodmal Nagar asked about deaths caused by air pollution. The government's response: "There is no conclusive data available to establish a direct correlation of death/disease exclusively due to air pollution" even as it listed 124 cities where pollution breached the accepted norms for five successive years. In 1998, the government was asked about deaths caused by air pollution. The answer: "There is no conclusive data available to establish direct co-relationship". Clearly, successive governments believe Indians are immune to air pollution.

Given the distress and devastation witnessed during the pandemic, MPs have sought to know the state of the public health care system. Arvind Kumar Sharma and Alok Kumar Suman, MPs in Lok Sabha, asked about the shortage of doctors in rural areas and steps being taken. In response, the government revealed that over 90,000 sanctioned posts ranging from doctors to dentists to nursing and para medical staff are vacant. But the data is from Rural Health Statistics March 2019. So we don't know what the status is in 2021.

Lok Sabha member T N Prathapan and five others asked for "total number of hospital beds in Government hospitals in the country". The answer: "Health' being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Government/UTs to make efforts for increasing the bed strength in their hospitals in accordance with requirements and fund availability. No such data in this respect is centrally maintained."

Curiously, the government answering another question revealed that isolation and ICU bed capacity was 18.21 lakh and 1.22 lakh, respectively! So why doesn't it know the number of hospital beds?

Only recently, India celebrated, justifiably, the completion of rural electrification. Bhartruhari Mahtab, BJD MP from Odisha, asked about the status of electrification of schools. The response: "As per Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) 2019-20, there are 1507708 schools in the country out of which 1257897 schools have electricity – effectively 249811 schools across the country do not have access to electricity." How does one reconcile 100 per cent electrification and lack of lighting in centres of learning — and the grand plans of digital learning?

The cult of evasion and state of denial is stark when it comes to the issue of livelihoods. On the first day of the session, MPS asked the government for details on 'the number of casual/contract employees retrenched from their jobs during this second wave of Covid pandemic'. The long-winded reply of the government lists initiatives ranging from subvention via EPFO for new hiring to credit extended by RBI. There is no mention of any idea of jobs lost. The system simply doesn't have a mechanism to record job losses!

MSMEs account for the bulk of employment and 40 per cent of GVA (gross value addition) in the economy. MPs asked the government for details on the number of MSMEs which went sick or closed down and loss of jobs. True to template, the government listed the steps which the RBI had taken for extension and restructuring of credit and even cited two surveys which stated 88 per cent of MSMEs were affected by the pandemic. But the answer did not reveal if the government knew the number of MSMEs which went under — this when over 102.32 lakh MSMEs are listed on the Udyog Aadhaar Portal.

The design of development rests on a simple construct: that which is measured can be improved. How does a system persist with an architecture where critical information is either not measured, not available or is hopelessly outdated? The gaps in data and information allow perverse incentives for evasion and obfuscation. Can a modern economy in the 21st century, with aspirations of being a digital economy afford the yawning gap between allocations, outcomes and accountability?

INDIA UNDER INTOLERANT INDIANS

POINT OF VIEW

T J S GEORGE

THE National Institutional Ranking Framework has named Delhi's Hindu College as the best in the country in arts and science streams. It is a well-deserved distinction based on its academic standards, the role played by its campus societies and its placement records.

The name of the college also brings out the peculiar Indian practice of linking education with religion. This is a regressive approach, started during the colonial period by selfish Christian missionaries. In Oxford or Cambridge, Harvard or Stanford, France's Sorbonne or Sweden's Karolinska, religion was never thrust into the nomenclature of educational institutions. How did it become part and parcel of Indian culture?

When Madras emerged as the epicentre of education in the south with famous colleges featuring on its marquee, religious labelling was ingrained into the process, no one thinking about it as something special. Madras Christian College and Loyola College became more popular than the non-denominational Presidency College or Pachaiyappa's College, the first educational institution in the south not founded by the British. The culture of those days was summed up in the saying: The gentlemen of Christian, the slaves of Loyola, the princes of Presidency and the rowdies of Pachaiyappas. (Pachaiyappa Mudaliar who became a "master financier and merchant prince when he was just 22" ensured that the institutions he financed had outstanding architectural distinction. Until 1947, the college admitted only Hindu students.)

Why Pachaiyappas got identified with rowdy types is not clear. The college's motto is "Mind Moves Matter." But headlines often put a question mark on that motto. In July 2019, a group of machete-wielding students from Pachaiyappas chased another group from the same college. Police identified 90 "route rowdies", commuting students "elected" as leaders of students travelling to college on a particular bus or train. These rowdies had their own rules and anyone who violated them would be punished in ways they would never forget.

The very idea that students travelling to their college should be subject to control by violence-prone student "leaders" pointed to a negative culture gaining ground. This was a long way from the culture that led to the founding of Nalanda and Takshashila universities. Chanakya was one of the teachers at Takshashila where he composed Arthashastra. Earlier in the 12th century, fire destroyed more than nine million manuscripts in Nalanda. Not long after that invader Bakhtiyar Khalji destroyed what was left of that university. Fire and invaders destroy our centres of learning, but not those in Europe or America. Why the difference?

Among the top 10 universities in the world as listed by Times Higher Education, Harvard comes first followed by Cambridge, Columbia, Oxford, Yale, Stanford, Sorbonne, Chicago, Michigan and Princeton. Not one from the East. Among the top 100 universities as recognised by the world, China's Nanyang and Peking universities appear in the 78th and 87th positions, respectively. The National University of Singapore has the 99th rank. Not one from India that is Bharat.

Education is an unimportant topic among the decision makers of today's India. More than 30 per cent of school teachers do not have a degree. And 40 per cent schools are without electricity.

There is nothing surprising here. Education is an unimportant topic among the decision makers of today's India. More than 30 per cent of school teachers do not have a degree. And 40 per cent schools are without electricity. There are schools where cheating during examinations is officially encouraged. There are also schools where children have to sweep the floors and serve meals to the teachers. Beating the kids with rulers is a routine. The Right to Education Act is only on paper.

Sanjeev Sabhlok, Secretary of the Education Department in Assam in the 1990s, said bluntly in 2019: "The system is almost totally corrupt. Teacher posts and transfers are sold." Under the Modi Government, the neglect of agriculture and education became something of a scandal.

This is the context in which the Hindu College's rating needs to be understood. In 2018, it stood fourth and second in 2019. Rated the best in 2018 was Miranda House. In 2021, University of Delhi topped the list with the Indian Institute of Technology in Bombay, Kanpur, Madras and Delhi following in that order. Three reasons were given for naming a college after Miranda (not an Indian name). Vice-Chancellor Sir Maurice Gwyer's favourite actress was Carmen Miranda, his daughter's name was Miranda and Shakespeare character named Miranda (The Tempest) symbolised for him what a lady should be.

Innocent were those days when idealism was respected and one could follow one's creative instincts without bothering about its politics. Where is that India? How did the malignity of politics overtake the lucidity of education? Why has broad-minded India been subjugated by intolerant Indians?

SNOOP AND SCOOT NO GAIN FOR DEMOCRACY

POWER & POLITICS

PRABHU CHAWLA
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Follow him on Twitter @PrabhuChawla

"Pegasus has got its wings on Fire,
Keep away from him, Because
When you play with fire, it harms you."
Inno

LITERALLY, Pegasus has set India on fire. Ever since news of the spyware infiltrating millions of smart phones in over a dozen countries including India surfaced, the specter of surreptitious surveillance has sparked a vicious verbal war between the ruling establishments and their adversaries. Private information of presidents, prime ministers has been burgled in an underhand manner. Irony died when it was proved that the secret Israeli bugware was used by Arab monarchs to monitor their own people.

In India, Pegasus made headlines because the names of the surveilled included important BJP functionaries, among whom is a newly inducted Union Minister who was forced to defend Big Brother's clandestine curiosity with a straight face in Parliament. As usual, the government went into denial mode as the Opposition bayed for blood and the cacophony's contours acquired the shape of Liberty vs. Suppression. Comically, some individuals in the list were either insignificant or have little influence on decision making, leading to the moral justification for the dataveillance to be swept under the carpet. Perhaps, every one of them (barring genuine journalists) was at some stage, directly or indirectly, spying on each other. Self-importance is a curious index of relevance—some people whose names were missing slipped into dejection.

Information is power and surveillance sustains power. Power is also paranoia. Espionage is the historic weapon of rulers who had eyes and ears even in bedrooms of both friends and foes, since power has no loyalty. The hated Roman Frumentarii became so omnipresent and omniscient that Emperor Diocletian disbanded their secret web. Chanakya's Arthasastra stresses the importance of espionage for the safety of the throne. From the Mughals to the British, snooping became warfare by other means.

Modern democracies, ever suspicious of internal and external threats to sovereignty and individual freedom, constantly keep a watch for conspiracies. Dictators use the tired trope of national security and stability to keep their chair. But modern electronic surveillance is spreading fear among free thinkers who are monitored as enemies of the state. Ever since democratically elected individuals gained unaccountable power, intensely intrusive tools are used to gather information about potential threats from within and outside.

After Independence, every elected leader at the Centre or in the state has used India's massive state intelligence apparatus to his or her advantage. When technology was nascent, Chief Ministers and Police Chiefs gave secret instructions to the telephone department to install parallel lines of their targets. The postal department was advised to open letters of opposition leaders. In 1981, India Today magazine's expose revealed the names of leaders including LK Advani whose mail was opened and read before being delivered by the Indira Gandhi government. After a furore in Parliament, the then Home Minister Giani Zail Singh ordered an inquiry. Numerous chief ministers such as Bhajan Lal in Haryana, Darbara Singh in Punjab, MG Ramachandran in Tamil Nadu and Ramkrishna Hegde in Karnataka were accused of wire tapping individuals, including from their own party and government.

After the Britishers left their formidable spy machine in Indian political hands, illegitimate snooping became entrenched in the new system. Politics is the paradox of principles; its democratic mandate allows any government to use devious means to gather personal information about the very people who elected it. Domestic spying is an essential toolkit to win elections. It was rampant during the Emergency when Indira saw an enemy under every bush. When Rajiv Gandhi faced internal and popular dissent in 1987, his government tapped over 1 lakh phones. The Congress government commandeered the national telephone network 1980 to 1990. Zail Singh was so paranoid about phone tapping that he would meet journalists in the Mughal Gardens instead of in his office.

In 1996, Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda ordered his intelligence officials to monitor the phones and activities of Congress president Sitaram Kesri at whose mercy his government stood. His fears were proved true when Kesri pulled the rug from under him. The wily Congressman fooled the agencies by changing not only his landline numbers, but also by taking a circuitous route to the Rashtrapati Bhavan to withdraw his party's support. Arjun Singh, a powerful minister in PV Narasimha Rao's Cabinet, accused the PMO of tapping his phones and ordered regular electronic sweeps of his entire residence.

With every change of regime, the techniques, technology and intensity of snooping acquire dangerous contours. After coalition governments became the norm in the states and the Centre from the 1990s, eavesdropping became an indispensable part of statecraft. India faced ultra-Leftist threats and Islamic terrorism in J&K. The government acquired sophisticated equipment to track anti-national elements and economic offenders like hawala operators. It also allowed the import of surveillance equipment by private agencies which were used by big corporates to tap phones of their rivals and babus.

The Pegasus furore reveals the sophisticated hi-tech power of modern tracking systems. Any cell phone can be checked 24X7, including iPhones which Apple claims are impenetrable. Since the only customers of Pegasus are governments, the real killer of privacy and intimidation of citizens has been bared. Undoubtedly, the enemies of the state should be on the watch list. But when used against the people who disagree with the policies of an institution or an individual, surveillance creates fear psychosis. If every citizen fears that his voice is being overheard by State, he would simply stop talking and the spies would get no information.

Moreover, the government is the loser when the exchange of free and fresh ideas stops. Now most ministers, civil servants and opinion makers refuse to talk on the phone or use Face Time, Signal or Telegram to communicate. The very objective of surveillance is to protect the larger interest of democracy. Dissent and democracy are inseparable. The tyranny and terror of technology unleashed through Pegasus cannot sever their sacred bond. However, Pegasus has affected India's democratic reputation. The kerfuffle has given a handle to many hostile and biased think tanks and NGOs to paint the country as a "partly free" democracy. Pegasus is the mythical creature of Greek legend, which is always portrayed as a white horse with wings. The only way to demolish the foundations of the "report by disruptors for the obstructers" is to release a White Paper on India's newest Snoopgate.

QUOTE CORNER

We are selling our products to governments. We have no way to monitor what they do. But if those governments misuse the system, we have a way to investigate. We will shut them down. ...But we cannot be blamed for the misuse.

Shalev Hulio, CEO and cofounder of NSO Group

I want to make it clear that we do not believe in the monopoly of power because any government which (sought) to monopolise power in Afghanistan in the past was not successful. So we do not want to repeat that same formula.

Suhail Shaheen, Taliban spokesperson

Depending on the situation, no doubt we will have to ask ourselves the question of mandatory vaccination for all. I have made the choice of trust. I am appealing to all our non-vaccinated countrymen to get vaccinated as soon as possible

Emmanuel Macron, French President

MAILBAG WRITE TO letters@newindianexpress.com

Mirabai scripts history

Saikhom Mirabai Chanu bagged India's first medal at the Tokyo Olympics 2020. She is now the only Olympic silver medallist from Northeast India. Northeast has a sea of talent, but many of these talents have withered away because of lack of facilities and infrastructure. With this silver medal, Chanu has opened the door to the talent pool of Northeast. I urge the Union ministry of sports to hold out a helping hand towards the region.

Noopur Baruah, Tezpur

New chapter in Punjab

It is good to hear from the horse's mouth (Sidhu) that he is devoid of ego, though the Amarinder-Sidhu face- off can be boiled down to the clash of egos of titanic proportions. That besides, now that the two have buried their hatchets ostensibly, it would do a world of good for Sidhu if he reverted to his cricketing strategy of not losing sight of the ball, which is the welfare of Punjab. The two should work in tandem, with the protection and progress of Punjab as the sole objective before them.

Elizabeth Koshy, Pathanamthitta

BJP's late realisation

This has reference to the news 'Suvendu's comment on Hindu deaths spark divide'. There was nothing wrong in the BJP's confidence to capture Bengal after having gained 18 seats in 2019. But in the state poll, it played Hindutva card abundantly portraying CM Mamata Banerjee as 'anti-Hindu'. There are apolitical voters in every party judging the merits of the organisation. It has to be admitted by the BJP that but for its aggressive stance on Hindutva, the party would not have lost 125 workers since 2019. The grassroot workers became sacrificial lambs because of acerbic public discourses of leaders. It is good that the party cogitated that there are numerous Hindu workers who are against politics on the line of religion. Cohesiveness not divisiveness will work is the late realisation by the saffron party.

R Sridharan, Chennai

Larger good comes first

In a landmark judgment, the Kerala High Court has dismissed petitions filed against the acquisition of land for the national highway in Kollam district. The judge reiterated that the existence of a religious structure or a building along the proposed highway alignment is not a justified reason to cancel or realign the plan. In a state like Kerala, with a multi-religious society and a very high density of population living in a congested way, some structure or the other may need resiting. The judge summed up by stating that God will protect the petitioners, the authorities, and judges even if they allow the development of highway on the places of worship.

OB Nair, Kochi

Spare a thought for schoolkids

This is with reference to report, 'ICSE, ISC board results to be declared today at 3 pm'. After a prolonged period of uncertainty, the declaration of results by CISCE is a breather for tens of thousands of students who were on tenterhooks. However, one might wonder, how will ICSE and ISC deal with the post-result declaration complications. Moreover, CBSE ought to declare Class 10th results as soon as possible or issue a definite date. The stress and restlessness is only aggravating by the day. The CBSE ought to appreciate that students' cannot be left in the lurch.

Aanya Singhal, Noida

Seers and politicians

The active roles being played by the seers in Karnataka is worrisome as it amounts to the mixing of religion and politics. It has to be shunned at all costs but all politicians take great pains to seek the support of the religious heads by generous allotment of public funds to the religious mutts and help them in all possible ways to keep them in good humour. They expect them to come to their rescue in times of crisis. This mutual understanding is corrupting the entire political system and also the democratic fabric of the nation that has to be run by the people, for the people and of the people.

V Padmanabhan, Bengaluru

THE NEW SUNDAY EXPRESS

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

Narendra Modi @narendramodi
India is elated by Mirabai Chanu's stupendous performance. Congratulations to her for winning silver in weightlifting.

Amit Shah @AmitShah
Inaugurated the Inter-State Bus Terminus in Shillong. Connectivity in the NE states has always been top priority of the NDA govt.

Nirmala Sitharaman @nsitharaman
Honoured to have respected President Kovind open a branch of the official State Bank of India in the Rashtrapati Bhavan Estate.

CBI raids biggies in gun licence case

Sleuths search 40 locations, senior IAS officer and other J&K bureaucrats under scanner

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi/Srinagar

THE Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Saturday conducted raids at the offices and residences of senior bureaucrats at nearly 40 locations in Jammu and Kashmir in connection with fraudulent issuance of gun licences.

Among those raided was senior IAS officer Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, who is Administrative Secretary of the Tribal Affairs Department in the Jammu and Kashmir administration.

Apart from the bureaucrats, CBI also raided the premises of around 20 gun dealers in Jammu, Srinagar, Udhampur, Rajouri, Anantnag, Baramulla and Delhi. According to sources, the gun dealers' role in the alleged racket was established during a scrutiny of documents. It is alleged that then district magistrates and additional district magistrates had issued illegal arms in connivance with the dealers. More than 2.78 lakh arms licences were issued to non-entitled persons in Jammu and Kashmir between 2012 and 2016.

The investigative agency had registered a case in 2019, alleging that deputy commissioners of various districts had issued licences illegally for monetary concessions. It was also alleged that people who got these licences were not residents of the districts from where they were issued the licences.

The residence of Choudhary at Tulsi Bagh government quarters in Srinagar was searched by CBI sleuths. Choudhary had previously served as Deputy Commissioner of Udhampur, Reasi, Kathua Rajouri and Srinagar districts.

Choudhary took to Twitter to claim that CBI found nothing incriminating at his residence in the probe. He said issuing arms licence is no crime and stated that out of 4.49 lakh licences issued in J&K between 2012 and 2016, only 56,000 were issued from Reasi, Kathua and Udhampur during his tenure.

"Of the 56,000 licences issued in three districts between 2012 and 2016, only 1720 licences were issued during my tenure," he said, adding that licences issued in these three districts during his tenure was lowest for any district.

The Rajasthan ATS had unearthed the gun licence racket in 2017. During investigation, J&K Police found that thousands of licences were issued by in J&K in a fraudulent manner. Senior IAS officers Rajiv Ranjan and Itrit Hussain Rafiqui were arrested in March, 2020, by CBI for issuing licences in improper manner.

Foreign secretary's UK trip aimed at Afghanistan talks

The rise of Taliban in Afghanistan has raised India's concerns | AFP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

FOREIGN Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla's hurriedly-planned two-day visit to the UK is to assess the country's approach towards the Afghanistan situation, said sources.

India planned this visit soon after UK's Defense Secretary Ben Wallace said that his country would be willing to work with the Talibans if they came to power in Afghanistan, according to sources. "India is concerned about the Taliban gaining legitimacy from various quarters across the world. Our interests in Afghanistan's security and economy are at stake. Hence, we want to assess what the UK is thinking about the deteriorating situation in Afghanistan," sources said.

New Delhi has not made any official statement in response to Wallace's remarks. However, Shringla's meeting with officials of the British government will give India an opportunity to make adjustments regarding the situation, sources added.

> **India is concerned about the Taliban gaining legitimacy from various quarters across the world. Our interests in Afghanistan's security and economy are at stake**
>
> Ministry source

The UK conveyed to India that it had not anticipated such a rapid rise of the militant group after the withdrawal of US troops. India has traditionally opposed the Taliban, following its strict 'no talking with terrorists' policy. India Russia and Iran have been supporting the anti-Taliban alliance when the Talibans were ruling from 199-2001.

New Delhi has development projects worth an estimated $3 billion in the war-torn country. Apart from schools, roads and power stations, India built the Afghan Parliament. The Salma Dam (Afghan-India Friendship Dam) was one of the major projects aided by Indian which was attacked by Taliban.

The foreign secretary met his British counterpart Lord Tariq Ahmad and reviewed the implementation of the Roadmap 2030, which was adopted at a virtual summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his British counterpart Boris Johnson to elevate ties to a comprehensive strategic partnership.

Kabul mission asks Indians to remain cautious

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

THE Indian Embassy in Kabul on Saturday reiterated that its June 29 security advisory for Indian nationals in the war-torn country should be strictly followed amid the rise in violence by the Taliban.

The advisory urges Indians visiting, staying and working in Afghanistan to exercise utmost caution and avoid all types of non-essential travel in view of a rising number of incidents of violence in various parts of the country.

"The security situation in Afghanistan remains dangerous in certain provinces and terror groups have carried out a series of complex attacks, including targeting civilians. Indian nationals additionally face a serious threat of abduction," the advisory stated.

In view of the killing of Pulitzer Prize winning photojournalist Danish Siddiqui in Kandahar, the advisory urged Indian media to establish contact with the embassy for briefings. "Special attention is drawn to members of the Indian media travelling to Afghanistan to cover events through ground reports. As recent tragic events showed, it is essential that all Indian press -persons covering events on the ground establish contact with the Public Affairs & Security Wing of this Embassy for a personalized briefing including specific advice for the locale they are traveling to," it added.

STRIKING FEATURE

Himachal Road Transport Corporation bus conductors during a statewide strike called to hightlight their demands, in Shimla on Saturday | PTI

OXYGEN EXPRESS IN AID OF BANGLADESH

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

AN Oxygen Express train on Saturday departed from Jamshedpur carrying 200 metric tonnes of liquid medical oxygen to Benapole in Bangladesh. This is the first time that such a train transported oxygen outside the country.

"Indian Railways' Oxygen Express service is set to embark on its journey to Bangladesh. This is the first time ever that it has been put into operation to a neighbouring country. Today, an indent was placed at Tatanagar in Chakradharpur Division under the South Eastern Railway to transport 200 MT of LMO to Benapole, Bangladesh," a statement from the Railways ministry stated. It added that the oxygen was stored in 10 containers and the process of loading was completed on Saturday morning.

The railways had announced Oxygen Express trains in April and began operations on April 24, keeping in view the acute shortage of oxygen in many hospitals across the country during the second wave of the pandemic.

COVID TRACKER

1.34% CASE FATALITY RATE	4,08,977 Active cases
2.40% NATIONAL POSITIVITY RATE	3,464 Increase in active cases
97.35% NATIONAL RECOVERY RATE	16,31,266 Tests on Friday
	42,67,799 Doses on Friday

Source: Union Health Ministry

EXPRESS READ

TMC nominates former Prasar Bharati CEO to Rajya Sabha

Kolkata: The Trinamool Congress on Saturday nominated former Prasar Bharati CEO Jawhar Sircar to the Rajya Sabha. "Mr Sircar spent nearly 42 years in public service and was also former CEO of Prasar Bharati. His invaluable contribution to public service shall help us serve our country even better," the TMC tweeted. The seat in the upper house fell vacant after Dinesh Trivedi joined BJP.

Girls and boys record same pass percentage in ICSE Class X exams

New Delhi: The CISCE announced results for Classes 10 and 12 on Saturday, with Class 10 girls and boys achieving the same pass percentage of 99.98. In the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations Class 12 results, girls scored more than the boys by a margin of 0.2 per cent. The board said, there will be no merit list this time in view of the exceptional circumstances.

After Punjab revamp, Cong to launch Pilot project in Rajasthan

RICHA SHARMA & RAJESH ASNANI @ New Delhi/Jaipur

AFTER tackling the crisis in the Punjab unit, the Congress high command is said to be active in resolving the tug of war in Rajasthan Congress. Party general secretary KC Venugopal and Congress in-charge for the state, Ajay Maken, were expected to reach Jaipur late on Saturday night to meet CM Ashok Gehlot.

When the two emissaries will meet Gehlot is unclear, but the buzz is that the party will come up with a formula to resolve the long pending demands of a cabinet expansion and political appointments.

Gehlot's rival **Sachin Pilot** has of late become impatient for a solution after his rebellion last year. Pilot and 18 other Congress MLAs had rebelled against Gehlot and after a month-long crisis, the Congress high command had formed a committee to look into the issues raised by them but so far no concrete solutions have emerged.

After Navjot Sidhu was made president of the Punjab unit of Congress, hopes of the Sachin Pilot camp have gone up. A few days ago, Pilot himself said he was in touch with the party leadership over the issues raised by him.

Congress sources said that the high command had set in motion a process to fulfill the key promises made to Pilot. Recently, Maken had discussed the issues with Gehlot during his visit to Jaipur. Talks were also held with Pilot in Delhi around the same time.

"There were a couple of meetings in the last one week in Delhi and now, the general secretary is in Jaipur to address it. A decision is expected soon," sources added.

Recently, Maken had discussed issues with Gehlot during his two-day visit to Jaipur. Similarly, discussions with Pilot were held in Delhi. Names that came up during the discussions with the top two leaders in Rajasthan are now likely to be given a final shape in the Gehlot-Venugopal talks.

Party sources say that Maken and Venugopal have devised a formula that could satisfy the Pilot faction without upsetting Gehlot and his loyalists.

Case pendency in Supreme Court rises by 4.3%

KANU SARDA @ New Delhi

THE wheels of justice at India's top court is seemed to be clogging with the pendency of cases reaching an all time high of almost 68,000. There is a steep rise in pending cases especially during the period of January 2021 till May 2021.

In 2020, there was rise of pendency of 1.4% and in 2019 it was 1.7%. But in 2021, there is rise in cases by 4.3%. Though the Supreme Court worked more during the Covid-19 restrictions than what it does in normal years, still the pendency has touched an all time high. The main reason for the high pendency is the restricted physical hearings and shifting the whole judicial work online. In the beginning only important cases were taken up for hearing but gradually miscellaneous cases too were taken up.

If we compare the month-wise pendency, in 2019 there were rise in 822 cases, in 2020 it rose to 1,024 cases and in 2021 there was a steep rise by 2,811 cases.

Similarly, in January 2019, the pendency stood at 59,859, in 2020 it reached 58,168 and in 2021 it stands at 67,897 cases.

The pendency is going to increase further as the top court continues to function with 27 judges, seven short of the sanctioned strength of 34 judges. Two more judges are retiring this year and three others are due to retire next year.

Despite increasing the strength of judges to nearly four times from 1950 to 2021, pendency still haunts the Supreme Court.

A mere look at the data also reflects how the number of cases filed in the apex court rose from 1,215 in 1950 to 67,897 till May 2021, making it one of the most overburdened constitutional courts in the world.

The key reason for the mounting of pending cases can be attributed to shifting the role of the Supreme Court from adjudicating cases of constitutional significance into a regular court of appeals.

According to legal experts, most of the cases that the Supreme Court was handling daily are either appeals from various high courts or cases of gross violation of individual's fundamental rights. But this role was never meant for the apex court. It is because of frivolous PILs and various government policies which are challenged by the people that takes up most of judiciary's time.

Rise in number of judges not helping

From 1950 to 1921, the number of Supreme Court judges has increased nearly four times. Even then, case pendency has steadily kept rising. Frivolous PILs play a part in this.

VALUE ADDITION

Tribal affairs ministry in tie-up with NITI Aayog

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

THE Ministry of Tribal Affairs has collaborated with NITI Aayog to implement the Van Dhan Yojana in districts identified as aspirational.

As a follow-up of the implementation of the Yojana in the tribal aspirational districts, a TRIFED team briefed about the DMs/DCs of these districts during a meeting on July 23.

The Van Dhan tribal start-ups and the mechanism for marketing of minor forest produce (MFP) through minimum support price (MSP) and development of value chain for MFP scheme that provides MSP to gatherers of forest produces and introduces value addition and marketing through tribal groups and clusters are among the many initiatives of TRIFED for generating employment and income for tribal population.

As per TRIFED, 37,904 Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKs), subsumed into 2275 Van Dhan-Vikas Kendra Clusters (VDVKCs) of 300 forest dwellers each, have been sanctioned by TRIFED till date.

A Van Dhan Vikas Kendra includes 20 tribal members. Fifteen such Van Dhan Vikas Kendras form one Van Dhan Vikas Kendra cluster. The Van Dhan-Vikas Kendra Clusters provide the Van Dhan Vikas Kendras economies of scale, livelihood and market-linkages, as well as entrepreneurship opportunities to nearly 6.77 lakh tribal forest gatherers in 27 states.

Army adopts soft strategy to wean away Kashmir youth from militancy

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

A PIA-marked aeroplane-shaped balloon seized in Poonch on display | PTI

WORRIED about local youth in Kashmir joining militancy, the Army is mulling over the strategies to wean them away from the path of terror.

"Till June, 58 youth from the Valley had joined various terror groups. It remains a big concern for us. Another worry is the support of Over Ground Workers, who don't directly participate in the operations but prepare the base for communication and recruitment," said an officer, adding that the process of brainwashing the youth and eulogising those who pick up guns continues.

The OGWs have been working as information carriers and recruiters. "Vulnerable families and gullible youth are picked up by them as potential recruits. Peer pressure and romanticisation of the gun attracts the youngsters towards that," the officer said.

Outlining the strategy to stop the youth from taking the path of terror, he said, "We are offering a large number of scholarships in different parts of the country and are organising sports activities for the youth to channelise their energy so that they don't get brainwashed by the OGWs."

Asked if the increasing hold of the Taliban in Afghanistan would have an impact on Kashmir, with Taliban cadres joining terror groups in the Valley, the officer said it's not going to happen in near future. "It may take another four-five years before the Taliban fighters think of entering Kashmir as they are busy fighting the government forces in their country."

Though the ceasefire along LoC has not been violated by Pakistan since February, there are signs of terrorist training camps getting re-activated. "There have been two infiltration attempts in the last five months, though without the overt support of Pakistan," said the officer. He added that activities at some terror launch pads and training locations have been observed of late.

Two militants killed, soldier injured in forest gunfight

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Srinagar

TWO militants were killed and an army man was injured in a gunfight in a forest area of Bandipora in north Kashmir.

A police official said a joint contingent of police, CRPF and Rashtriya Rifles launched a cordon and search operation in Shokbaba forest in Sumblar district after receiving inputs on the presence of group of militants. The troops encountered heavy gunfire from the militants hiding in the forest. The fire was returned in an ensuing gunfight, leading to the death of the two militants. An army jawan was injured during the tussle. He was taken to hospital in Srinagar. Security was tightened and more troops rushed to assist the others in carrying out the operation to prevent the militants from escaping, said the police official.

Meanwhile, an army man identified as Sepoy Kamal Dev Vaidya was killed in an accidental mine blast along the LoC in Krishna Ghati sector of Mendhar in Poonch district. "Vaidya was on an operational duty and while moving, he was critically injured. He died in hospital," said a spokesman.

ROHINGYA ARRESTED

Fifteen suspected illegal Rohingya immigrants were apprehended from a railway station in Assam's Karimganj district on Saturday, police said. They were taken into custody at the Badarpur station

₹12 LAKH WORTH LIQUOR SEIZED IN MAHA

INDIA	Max	Min			
Ahmedabad	32	26	Mumbai	29	26
Bhopal	31	23	Panaji	27	23
Jaipur	33	26	Patna	34	27
Amritsar	36	29	Lucknow	30	24
Chennai	31	26	Port Blair	30	24
Kolkata	34	28	Imphal	28	21
Srinagar	32	21	Chandigarh	31	27

EVACUATIONS

District	People
Ratnagiri	1,200
Satara	5,656
Thane	6,930
Kolhapur	40,882
Sangli	78,111
Pune	263
Raigad	1,000
Sindudurg	1,271
Total	1,35,313

An NDRF rescuer carries an infant in a heavily flooded area in Kohlapur district, Maharashtra, on Saturday | PTI

Over 1.35 lakh evacuated in flood-battered Maha

Rain fatalities touch 52 in Raigad, including 37 landslide deaths

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @Mumbai

RESCUE teams including those mobilised by the Indian Army, Navy and Air Force have evacuated more than 1,35,000 trapped people in many parts of Maharashtra amid the torrential rainfall.

According to the government, the heavy rain coincided with high tides, and discharges from dams led to many regions in the state getting inundated, thereby resulting in floods in multiple districts. Mahad and Poladpur in Raigad, Chiplun in Ratnagiri, as well as areas in Satara, Kolhapur, and Sangli have been affected. The Thane and Palghar districts also experienced heavy flooding in the last two days.

Maharashtra CM Uddhav Thackeray, along with state Chief Secretary Sitaram Kunte, visited Taliye village where 47 people lost their lives and 53 are still missing. Thackeray assured landslide-affected families of rehabilitation and told them that all possible help from the government will be extended. He also announced the preparations of the master plan to control flood water in Konkan and western Maharashtra region, which faces torrential rain and flooding every year.

"Government will work on this water management plan that will ensure that no areas of these regions face such high flooding due to heavy rain. This is the annual affair that has to be tackled by working on a long term plan," Thackeray said.

Maharashtra housing minister Jitendra Awhad said the government housing body – MHADA takes the responsibility of constructing new houses for Taliye village people who lost their houses in a landslide. Meanwhile, NCP Minister Chagan Bhujbal declared that 10 kg rice, 10 kg wheat, five kg pulses, and five liters of kerosene will be given to every rain-affected family free of cost.

In Raigad, heavy rainfall resulted in the Savitri river bursting its banks and flooding the Mahad and Poladpur areas. Taliye village is 20 km from Mahad. The whole town of Mahad was completely cut off due to the flood and was not accessible by road. Many people were stranded on rooftops and upper floors of the houses.

In Satara district, torrential rainfall (the hillstation Mahabaleshwar received more than 1100 mm of rainfall in less than 48 hours) resulted in heavy discharge from the Koyna dam.

Shah promises rail and air links for NE

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Guwahati

UNION Home Minister Amit Shah said on Saturday that the Union government will link capitals of Northeast through rail and air.

"It will be difficult to give pace to development here (Northeast) without connectivity. That's why, after the formation of the BJP government in 2014, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had laid thrust on connectivity in the Northeast," Shah said at a programme in Meghalaya capital Shillong.

"Our effort will be to connect the capitals of all states in the Northeast with railway and airway by 2024. Along with this, road connectivity has to be also strengthened," the Home Minister said.

Amit Shah being given a memento by ISRO chairman K Sivan during the foundation stone laying ceremony of the Multipurpose Conference Centre and Exhibition facility at NESAC in Umiam in Meghalaya on Saturday | PTI

He reviewed the operation of the North Eastern Space Application Centre (NESAC) which plays a key role in stimulating the overall growth of the region by using space science and technology.

He applauded the NESAC's for efforts and dedication and assured it that the Centre was committed to providing advanced technical support to help transform the lives of people in the region.

"Mapping of forest gap areas, expansion of the land area for horticulture development, identification and rejuvenation of wetlands, diversion of floodwater and assessment of bamboo resources for livelihood needs are a few among many key ideas that were discussed during the meeting," the Home Minister tweeted.

Later in the evening, Shah was scheduled to attend a closed-door meeting with the chief ministers of the region to discuss various issues, including inter-state boundary disputes.

Sidhu piles pressure on Amarinder to implement high-command's directives

HARPREET BAJWA @Chandigarh

A day after he took charge of the Punjab Congress, Navjot Singh Sidhu on Saturday attacked the Amarinder-led state government and said it must implement the 18-point "pro-people" agenda recommended by the party high command without wasting time.

"Each MP, MLA and worker of the party must protect this agenda as it is for the welfare of the people, as we are a welfare state," he said.

"This agenda is our biggest plank. We have to give it and the Punjab model to the people as no Gujarat or Delhi model can stand before this model," he added. The 18-point plan calls on the government to ensure justice prevails in the 2015 sacrilege case, action is taken against the drug and mining mafia and the scourge of illicit liquor.

"The people of the state wanted to know the big names behind drug smuggling. Their names had to be revealed as they have ruined the youth. Not only that, the people want to know why the Punjab government is buying power at ₹18 per unit while other states are buying it at ₹7 per unit," said Sidhu who added that solar power is cheaper. Sidhu raised the sacrilege issue and said people are still waiting for justice in the 2015 case, which involved the desecration of the Guru Granth Sahib and the subsequent police firing on those protesting it. "The power of the people must return to the people," he said. Sidhu said his top priority will be to ensure that the farmers win their battle. He said all the elders in the Samyukt Kisan Morcha are like his parents and he would go barefoot to meet them.

Device makers told to submit stock details

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Centre also said that the revised MRP effective from July 20 on all the brands and specifications has been shared with the state drug controllers for strict monitoring. Importantly, in order to monitor availability, manufacturers and importers of these medical devices have been directed to submit quarterly stock details. A look at the price revision suggests that an oximeter with an earlier MRP of ₹3,999, for instance, will have a new MRP of ₹1,545. Another oximeter priced ₹2,600 will have to be priced at ₹1,950. A blood pressure monitoring device earlier priced at ₹3,500 will have a price tag of ₹1,375, while a glucometer available earlier at ₹1,590 will now be priced at ₹675. A digital thermometer will be priced ₹249 against ₹270 earlier. Prices, however, won't change for devices whose makers had already applied the formula enforced by NPPA. The formula specifies that MRP should be computed by adding three components — the price to the distributor, 70% of price to the distributor and the goods and services tax. Some health and patient rights activists. however, have said that a 70% cap was still too high and urged the government to cap the trade margin at an earlier point in the supply chain — the landed cost or ex-factory cost — and not from the price to the distributor.

'India a critical US partner in region'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"WITH respect to the human rights and democracy question, yes, you are right; I will tell you that we will raise it, and we will continue that conversation," acting Assistant Secretary for South and Central Asian Affairs Dean Thompson said, adding that the discussions would also look to expand ties in the fields of security, defence, cyber and counterterrorism cooperation. Stressing that India is a critical US partner in the region, with shared interest in a stable and secure Afghanistan, Thompson said the US welcomed India's shared commitment to peace and support to economic development. Last week, Jaishankar met the US deputy NSA, Elizabeth Sherwood-Randall, and the US Special Representative on Afghanistan, Zalmay Khalilzad.

POWER PLAY

JD-U, BJP rift widens over caste-based census

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Patna

BIHAR'S ruling JD-U and its ally BJP appears to be headed for a clash over the issue of caste-based census.

Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Saturday once again called for a caste-based census, which the BJP-led Centre has repeatedly refused.

"There should be once a caste based census in the country. I request to the Central government to reconsider this issue," he said speaking to the reporters in Patna

The chief minister's statement comes a day after his party national spokesperson KC Tyagi too mounted pressure on the Centre.

"The Bihar legislature had unanimously passed a resolution to this effect on February 18, 2019 and February 27, 2020. And it was sent to the Central government. The Centre should reconsider this issue," Kumar said. Political experts in Patna are of the view that differences between the JD-U and the BJP over this may negatively impact their alliance with both sides disinclined to compromise.

The JD-U has received indirect support from opposition RJD and another ally of NDA-the Hindustan Awami Morcha (HAM), leaving the BJP alone.

Parties pushing for caste-based census would get support from more voters.

The BJP has supported caste-based census only for SC/ST, which constitute only 15% of the total population, said Dr Archana Kumari, a researcher said.

JD-U leader KC Tygai's statement that the government is not committed to caste-based census has upset the BJP. The party is silently watching the moves made by ally JD-U on the issue.

Meanwhile, BJP spokesperson Dr Nikhil Anand said the party is committed to ensuring the development of every section of the society. "It is evident from the diversity seen in the present Union cabinet."

100 engineers apply for morgue assistant's post

PRANAB MONDAL @Kolkata

A hospital in Kolkata has received applications from engineers, post-graduates and graduates for the post of an assistant in its mortuary, which requires Class-VIII education and offers a monthly salary of ₹15,000.

Nilratan Sircar Medical College and Hospital sought applications for six vacancies a month ago. Around 8,000 candidates have applied so far.

Though the minimum educational qualification required is Class-VIII, at least 100 applicants have completed engineering, about 500 are post-graduates and more than 2,000 are graduates. People with such levels of qualifications applying for a job that requires only Class VII is a reflection of the sorry state of employment in the state, an official of the state government said. The hospital authorities have decided to call 784 candidates to appear for a written exam. "The educational qualification for the job was Class-VIII. It doesn't mean that candidates with higher education cannot apply. If postgraduates and engineers apply for the job, we cannot do anything," said an official of the hospital. In its appointment notice, the hospital authorities said the applicants' age should be between 18 and 40, and if they have experience working at a morgue, that will be considered as a plus point. The notice said the hospital would prefer candidates from the Dome community.

In 2017, Malda hospital received applications from people with PhD degree for a similar role.

BETTER CARE

Finally, relief for dad who cycled 400 km for son's treatment

MUKESH RANJAN @Ranchi

DILIP Yadav, a daily-wage worker from Jharkhand, had to travel 400 km on his bicycle every month to arrange blood transfusion for his son, who has thalassemia—an inherited blood disorder that causes one to have less hemoglobin than normal.

Now, in a major relief for the 40-year old, his five-and-half-year-old son Vivek will get free treatment at Aster Hospital in Bangalore.

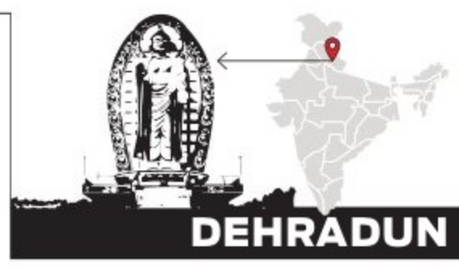
Thanks to the Bangalore-based crowdfunding platform–'Milaap' which came forward to help him after reading media reports about Yadav's struggles. Notably, a story was published prominently in *The New Indian Express*, highlighting the travails of this daily-wage worker from Jharkhand's Godda district, who had to travel 400 km on his bicycle every month amid the lockdown since he could not afford a taxi. After coming to know about Yadav's struggles, founder-director of Milaap, Sanjay Pandey, personally travelled to Godda to meet Yadav and know more about his life.

"After assessing the facts published in media, we decided to help Dilip Yadav to get his son treated free of cost. After the assessment, it was found that bone marrow transplant for his son will incur a total cost of ₹18-20 lakh, which will completely be borne by Milaap," said Pandey.

Meanwhile, flight tickets for all six members of Yadav's family, including his four children, were sent so that they could come to the hospital in Bengaluru and get their bone marrow tested. If a match is found, then the matching bone marrow can be donated to Vivek.

Govt not to broadcast Char Dham rituals

The Uttarakhand government has decided not to broadcast rituals from the Char Dham shrines. The decision was made during CM Pushkar Singh Dhami's meeting with officials of Char Dham Devasthanam Board on Friday. "Given the religious beliefs and faith of Shri Badrinath, Shri Kedarnath, Gangotri and Yamunotri temples, no live telecast of the rituals will be done," a communique issued after the meeting read. Officials said that the government doesn't want to interfere in religious affairs of the shrines. However, legal experts said this clashes with a court order that directed the state to live-telecast rituals.



VINEET UPADHYAY
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DEHRADUN DIARY

Two infra projects delayed due to lack of clearances

Char Dham Pariyojana and Rishikesh-Karnprayag Rail Line — both dream projects of Prime Minister Narendra Modi — are yet to get necessary clearances and are getting delayed. Officials from the state government said the CM is yet to clear the projects. Work on Rishikesh-Karnprayag Rail Line is supposed to end in 2024-2025. According to sources, the railway project needs 79 clearances. The `16,216 project involves laying a broad gauge rail line on a 125 km stretch that passes through Devprayag, Srinagar, Rudraprayag, Gauchar, Karnprayag, Dehradun, Tehri Garhwal, Pauri Garhwal, Rudraprayag and Chamoli. The deadline to complete the Char Dham all-weather road has been pushed to April 2023. It was supposed to be completed by July 2022.

No patients in majority of Covid care centres

About 65% of Covid care centers in Uttarakhand don't have a single Covid patient in them. Out of a total of 176 Covid care centers, 114 are without any Covid patient. "Our arrangements are in place for the third wave. Instructions have been passed to the official of the department to upgrade and apprise till July 31," Dhan Singh Rawat, the state health minister, said. Dehradun has 37 Covid Care Centers, Haridwar 24, Udham Singh Nagar 29, Nainital 14, Pauri 9, Uttarkashi 6, Champawat 3, Rudraprayag 2, Bageshwar 2 and 1 each in Almora, Pithoragarh, Tehri and Chamoli.

Fuel prices to be slashed in the state soon

Uttarakhand government is planning to cut the price of petrol and diesel by `2 and `1 respectively. State government officials told this newspaper that the fuel prices will be slashed by reducing the VAT and that an announcement is imminent. At present, the government imposes `19 as VAT for a litre of petrol and `10 for diesel. Petrol costs `97.81 per litre in Dehradun while diesel costs `90.54. In many other towns of Uttarakhand, the price of petrol is more than that of the capital. In Joshimath of Chamoli district, for instance, petrol costs `100.38, while in Srinagar 'Xtra Power' petrol costs `102.13.

316
people are shot daily in the US and 106 of them die, says the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence

GLOBAL WEATHER
LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	34	24	LC	Los Angeles	27	19	LC
Colombo	29	26	TDS	Melbourne	12	9	LR
Dhaka	32	27	TDS	Moscow	23	14	LC
Dubai	43	33	SNY	New York	31	23	LC
Houston	37	27	SNY	Singapore	32	27	LC
Istanbul	29	22	SNY	Toronto	29	19	LC
London	21	16	TDS	Washington	34	24	LC

Thousands protest Covid lockdown in Sydney, several arrested

French protesters reject vaccine pass bill

Paris: Tens of thousands of people protested on Saturday across the country against a bill requiring everyone to have a special virus pass to enter restaurants and mandating Covid vaccinations for all health care workers. Police fired water cannon and tear gas on rowdy protesters in Paris, although most gatherings were orderly. Protesters chanting "Liberty! Liberty!" marched through eastern Paris in one of several demonstrations around France.

Agitators in Italy rally against Covid certificate

Rome: Thousands of people protested in cities across Italy on Saturday against the introduction of restrictions on unvaccinated people. "Freedom" and "Down with the dictatorship" chanted Italian flag-waving demonstrators from Naples to Turin, while protesters in Milan shouted "No Green Pass!". From August 6, Green Pass is mandatory to enter cinemas, museums, indoor swimming pools, stadia or eat indoors at restaurants.

Police arrest a protester (centre) at a demonstration at Sydney Town Hall during a 'World Wide Rally For Freedom' anti-lockdown rally in Sydney on Saturday | AP

SYDNEY

THOUSANDS of people took to the streets of Sydney and other Australian cities on Saturday to protest lockdown restrictions amid another surge in cases, and police made several arrests after crowds broke through barriers and threw plastic bottles and plants.

The unmasked participants marched from Sydney's Victoria Park to Town Hall in the central business district, carrying signs calling for "freedom" and "the truth."

There was a heavy police presence in Sydney, including mounted police and riot officers in response to what authorities said was unauthorized protest activity. Police confirmed a number of arrests had been made after objects were thrown at officers.

New South Wales Police said it recognised and supported the rights of free speech and peaceful assembly, but the protest was a breach of public health orders.

The protest comes as Covid case numbers in the state reached another record with 163 new infections in the last 24 hours.

Greater Sydney has been locked down for the past four weeks, with residents only able to leave home with a reasonable excuse.

In Melbourne, thousands of protesters without masks turned out downtown chanting "freedom." Some of them lit flares as they gathered outside Victoria state's Parliament House.

They held banners, including one that read: "This is not about a virus it's about total government control of the people."

By Friday, 15.4% of the nation's population aged 16 and above have received both jabs for Covid. *AP*

Afghanistan imposes countrywide night curfew to stem Taliban advance

Curbs in 31 provinces; insurgents have captured key border crossings, dozens of dist capitals

KABUL

AFGHAN authorities on Saturday imposed a night-time curfew across 31 of the country's 34 provinces to curb surging violence unleashed by a sweeping Taliban offensive in recent months, the interior ministry said. The widespread Taliban offensive has seen the insurgents capture key border crossings, dozens of districts and encircle several provincial capitals since early May.

"To curb violence and limit the Taliban movements a night curfew has been imposed in 31 provinces across the country," except in Kabul, Panjshir and Nangarhar, the interior ministry said in a statement.

The curfew will be effective between 10:00 pm and 4:00 am local time, Ahmad Zia Zia, deputy interior ministry spokesman said in a separate audio statement to reporters.

With the withdrawal of American-led foreign forces all but complete, the resurgent Taliban now controls about half of Afghanistan's roughly 400 districts. After a brief lull in violence during this week's Muslim holidays of Eid al-Adha, fighting continued again with the authorities claiming to have killed more than 260 Taliban fighters in the past 24 hours across several provinces. Both the authorities and the Taliban exaggerate their claims which cannot be independently verified.

As the fighting raged in recent weeks, the US military was forced to carry out air strikes "to support" Afghan troops to repel Taliban offensives even as its overall withdrawal continues, Pentagon spokesman John Kirby said on Thursday. Experts say a lack of regular US air support since May to Afghan forces on the ground is a key factor in government troops losing lot of territory to the Taliban.

Afghan militia fighters keep a watch at an outpost against Taliban insurgents at Charkint district in Balkh Province | AFP FILE

Late on Friday, the Taliban warned the US military against carrying out air strikes.

"It is a clear violation of the signed agreement that will have consequences," the Taliban said in a statement, referring to a landmark deal between Washington and the insurgents last year that paved the way for the withdrawal of foreign forces.

The Taliban also warned the Afghan government against launching any offensive, saying the group will "strongly defend their territories and not remain in a defensive posture if the enemy insists upon war".

The Taliban had said earlier this week that its fighters were in a "defensive" posture to mark the Eid al-Adha holidays that ended on Thursday. *AFP*

Pak deploys regular troops along border

Islamabad: Pakistan has deployed regular troops at forward positions along the Afghan border due to the fluid security situation in the neighbouring war-torn country in the wake of the withdrawal of American and NATO troops, a media report said on Saturday. Interior Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed said that Pakistan Army soldiers have replaced the Frontier Constabulary (FC), Levies Force and other militias from the frontline positions, the Dawn newspaper reported. The US and NATO are on the verge of completing their final troops withdrawal from Afghanistan. Ahmed said the FC Balochistan and other militias working under the interior ministry had been called back from border patrolling. *PTI*

Pak NSA, ISI chief to visit US next week

ISLAMABAD

PAKISTAN'S National Security Adviser (NSA) Moeed Yusuf and ISI chief Lt Gen Faiz Hameed are likely to visit the United States next week for talks with their American counterparts on the situation in Afghanistan as part of Washington's diplomatic efforts aimed at ensuring a peaceful transfer of power in the war-torn nation, according to a media report.

The efforts also include visits by US Secretary of State Antony Blinken to New Delhi and Kabul for talks aimed at formulating a regional response to the Afghan crisis, the Dawn newspaper reported from Washington while quoting diplomatic sources.

The trip of Yusuf and Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) Director General Lt Gen Hameed was part of these diplomatic efforts, it said.

"Pakistan has a key role in a new US diplomatic offensive aimed at ensuring a peaceful transfer of power in Afghanistan," diplomatic sources told the newspaper on Friday.

Under a deal with the Taliban, the US and its NATO allies agreed to withdraw all troops in return for a commitment by the militants that they would prevent extremist groups from operating in areas they control. *PTI*

In Tibet, Xi focuses on long-term stability

BEIJING

CHINESE President Xi Jinping underlined the importance of long-term stability and prosperity in Tibet during a meeting with top military officials in Lhasa, the state media reported on Saturday, a day after he made an unannounced visit to the strategically important region, including to Nyingchi, a town close to the border with Arunachal Pradesh.

Xi, also General Secretary of the ruling Communist Party of China (CPC) and Chairman of the Central Military Commission, met top officials of the Tibet Military Command of the People's Liberation Army, guarding China's border with India in Arunachal Pradesh, and also called for "fully strengthening the work of training soldiers and war preparation," the Global Times reported.

Xi, 68, made his first visit to Tibet as President from Wednesday to Friday. But his important visit was kept under wraps by China's official media till the end of the tour on Friday due to the sensitivities of the trip.

On Thursday, Xi went to Nyingchi Railway Station, learning about the overall design of the Sichuan-Tibet Railway and how the Lhasa-Nyingchi section has been operated since June 25.It was the first time in recent years, a top Chinese leader visited the Tibetan border town.

From there he went to the provincial capital Lhasa by the recently launched high-speed train.

He wound up his visit to the politically sensitive Himalayan region on Friday by meeting 'representatives of troops stationed in Tibet'.

"Xi met with representatives of troops stationed in Tibet, calling for efforts to strengthen military training and preparedness in all aspects and make contributions to the lasting stability, prosperity and development of Tibet," the state-run Xinhua news agency reported. *PTI*

Chinese President Xi Jinping (centre) during his unannounced visit to Barkhor Street near the Jokhang Temple in Lhasa in Tibet | AP/PTI

ASIA MATTERS

Tutoring firms forced to become non-profit

Beijing: China is forcing after-school tutoring companies to register as non-profits and banning classes on weekends and holidays, according to government documents published by state media Saturday. The new rules, aimed at reducing pressure on children, parents and teachers in China's cut-throat education system, are a major blow to the country's multi-billion-dollar private education industry. Chinese authorities will stop approving new after-school education institutions and all existing organisations must now be registered as non-profits, according to the document published by CCTV and authored by China's State Council. These institutions will also be barred from giving classes on weekends, public holidays and school vacations, according to the rules. *AFP*

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the General Public that our client, **Mr. V Thomas S/o Thomas V Markose or his nominee** is intending to purchase the **"Schedule Property"** mentioned hereunder from **Sri.NAGARAJA.M S/o Sri.Madegowda.** Any Person/s, Banks, Financial Institution., etc. objecting for the proposed sale or having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the **"Schedule property"** are hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof within **07 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the advocate mentioned herein failing which our client shall proceed and complete the Sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Vacant **Site bearing No. 96,** in part-II, Situated in the Layout known and called as " Kanakashree Layout-2nd Stage" formed by the **KANAKASHREE HOUSE BUILDING CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED,** Bangalore, carved out of Land bearing Survey No. 216, Situated at **Kannur Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore,** approved by the Bangalore Development Authority, Bangalore, measuring East to West 30 : Feet and North to South : 40 Feet, in all measuring **1200 Square feet** and bounded on the:-

East by :: Site No. 97, West by :: Site No. 94 and 95, North by :: Site No.92, South by :: 9.14m wide road (12th Main Road)

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants
Bangalore-560 043. Contact : 9845846428
Bangalore Date : 24-07-2021

IRAQ ARRESTS 'TERROR CELL' OVER DEADLY MARKET BOMBING ATTACK

BAGHDAD

IRAQI Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhemi on Saturday announced the arrest of a "terror cell" behind a Baghdad market bombing that killed dozens and was claimed by the Islamic State group.

The attack sparked revulsion and renewed fears about the reach of IS, which lost its last territory in Iraq after a gruelling campaign that ended in late 2017, but retains sleeper cells in remote desert and mountain areas.

The bombing took place on Monday at Al-Woheilat market in Sadr City, a Shiite suburb in the capital, and officially killed 30 people, excluding the direct perpetrator. "We have arrested all the members of the cowardly terrorist cell that planned and perpetrated the attack," Kadhemi said on Twitter, "and they will be put before a judge today."

The PM did not specify the number of people arrested, but a source at the interior ministry said the suspects were anticipated to make televised "confessions", a common occurence for major crimes in Iraq.

Iraq declared IS defeated in late 2017 after a fierce three-year campaign and attacks became relatively rare in the capital -- until January this year when a twin Islamic State-claimed suicide bombing killed 32 people in another market.

The US-led coalition that supported Iraq's campaign against IS has significantly drawn down its troop levels over the past year, citing increased capabilities of Iraqi forces.

But US troops have been targeted by powerful Iraqi pro-Iran armed factions, which want them to withdraw from the country entirely.

The US and Iran share enmity toward Islamic State, but Tehran also sees Washington as its arch-nemesis.

An armed drone targeted a military base in Iraqi Kurdistan that hosts American troops, without causing casualties, the US-led coalition said Saturday.

It was the latest in a spate of attacks on US military and diplomatic facilities in Iraq. *AFP*

EXPRESS READ

George Floyd statue cleaned, to be shifted

New York: A statue of George Floyd that was defaced in Brooklyn has been cleaned and is headed for Manhattan's Union Square. The artwork was unveiled on the Juneteenth. Five days later on June 24, it was vandalised with black paint and marked with the logo of a white supremacist group. But members of the group that installed the statue painstakingly cleaned it, and local residents and one of Floyd's brothers gathered around it this week to bid farewell ahead of its long-planned move to Union Square in September. "You try to stop us, but you can't stop us. And we still gonna continue, with love," Terrence Floyd said.

Russia sends aid to Cuba after anti-govt protest

Moscow: Russia dispatched nearly 100 tonnes of humanitarian aid to Cuba, the defence ministry said on Saturday, following unprecedented street protests over the communist country's worst economic crisis in decades. Two An-124 cargo planes carrying more than 88 tonnes of humanitarian support took off from a military airport.

Four Iran guards killed in clashes with 'bandits'

Tehran: Four members of Iran's Revolutionary Guards were killed during a clash with "bandits" in the country's southeast border region, the official IRNA news agency said on Saturday. The four were killed on Friday evening "during a clash with bandits in the Khash region in Sistan-Baluchistan" province, IRNA said, citing a Guards statement.

Budapest Pride parade registers rising anger over anti-LGBT laws

BUDAPEST

RISING anger over the policies of Hungary's right-wing government filled the streets of the country's capital on Saturday as thousands of LGBT supporters marched in the annual Budapest Pride parade.

March organisers expected record crowds at the event, and called on participants to express their opposition to recent steps by populist Prime Minister Viktor Orban's government that critics say stigmatize sexual minorities in the Central European country.

Budapest Pride spokesperson Jojo Majercsik said this year's march is not just a celebration and remembrance of the historical struggles of the LGBT movement but a protest against Orban's current policies targeting gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and queer people.

"A lot of LGBTQ people are afraid and don't feel like they have a place or a future in this country anymore," said Majercsik.

The march came after a controversial law passed by Hungary's parliament in June prohibited the display of content to minors that depicts homosexuality or gender change.

The measures were attached to a bill allowing tougher penalties for pedophiles.

Hungary's government says its policies seek to protect children. But critics of the legislation compare it to Russia's gay propaganda law of 2013, and say it conflates homosexuality with pedophilia as part of a campaign ploy to mobilise conservative voters ahead of elections next spring.

The legislation was met with fierce opposition by many politicians in the European Union, of which Hungary is a member. The Executive Commission of the 27-nation bloc launched two separate legal proceedings against Hungary's government last week over what it called infringements on LGBT rights.

Saturday's march wound through the center of Budapest and crossed the Danube River on one of the iconic structures connecting the city's two halves: Liberty Bridge. *AP*

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the general public that our clients **Mr. Sahil Khadilkar and Mrs. Krupali Shevade** are intending to purchase the Property bearing residential apartment No.215, measuring 1063 sq ft., of super built up area, with two bedrooms, in Second Floor, of the building known as **"SILVER PARK"**, constructed on the property bearing BBMP Khatha No.1354/Sy.No.31/14, 31/12 and 33/15, of Haralukunte Village, of HSR Layout, Sub Division, totally measuring 0.32 Guntas, equivalent to 34848 sq ft., being residentially converted land of Haralukunte Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, (converted vide OM bearing (i) No.ALN(SB)(BH)SR 07/2010-11, dated 27.10.2010 and (ii) No. ALN(SB)(BH)SR 09/2010-11, dated 27.10.2010, issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, from its absolute owners by name **Mr. M. V. V. Rama Rao**, S/o. M. Veerraju Chowdary, Aged about 45 years, Residing at Flat No. 901 Wing 11, Ahad Euporia Apartments, Kodathi Gate, Sarjapura Road, Bangalore-56035. Anybody having any claim, right or interest over the said property mentioned above or part of it shall submit to the undersigned Advocate with written objection along with documents within 15 days. After the stipulated period no claims will be entertained and our clients will complete the transaction by getting the sale deed executed.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing residential apartment No.215, measuring 1063 sq ft., of super built up area, with two bedrooms, in Second Floor, of the building known as "SILVER PARK", constructed on the property bearing BBMP Khatha No.1354/Sy.No.31/14, 31/12 and 33/15, of Haralukunte Village, of HSR Layout, Sub Division, totally measuring 0.32 Guntas, equivalent to 34848 sq ft., being residentially converted land of Haralukunte Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, (converted vide OM bearing (i) No.ALN(SB)(BH)SR 07/2010-11, dated 27.10.2010 and (ii) No. ALN(SB)(BH)SR 09/2010-11, dated 27.10.2010, issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District.

SHARATH G.
Sharath Law Associates
Advocates,
No.504, 3rd Floor, 6th Cross, 6th Block, Koramangala, Bangalore – 560 095.
gsharath@yahoo.com

QuoteExpress

PROBLEMS ARE NOT STOP SIGNS, THEY ARE GUIDELINES

ROBERT H SCHULLER

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my client intend to purchase the Schedule Property from its owner **Sri.B.S.Gundu Rao,** S/o Shivaramaiah, residing at No.129, 6th Main Road, 1st Block, 3rd Phase, BSK 3rd Stage, Bengaluru-85. Any Person/s or Institution/s having any Claim/s or Objection/s in respect of the Schedule Property may file the same along with supporting documentary evidence with the undersigned within **15 days** from the date of publication of this notice. If no claim/s or objection/s is / are received by the undersigned within **15 days** as stated above, my client will proceed further as the property is free from all claim/s and objection/s.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Item No.1:
All that piece and parcel of immovable Property being residentially converted land bearing **Survey.No.103/16,** measuring **4 Guntas,** duly converted to non-agricultural residential purpose vide Official Memorandum bearing No:ALN/CR/207/10-11, dated 29.01.2011, passed by the Deputy Commissioner, Ramanagara District, situated at **Banandur Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk and District,** is bounded on:
East by : Land in Survey No.103/24;
West by : Land in Survey No.103/17;
North by : Land in Survey No.103/18;
South by : Land in Survey No.104;

Item No.2 :
All that piece and parcel of immovable Property being residentially converted land bearing **Survey No.103/24,** earlier portion of Survey No.103/16, measuring **05 Guntas,** duly converted to non-agricultural residential purpose vide Official Memorandum bearing No:ALN/CR/207/10-11, dated 29.01.2011, passed by the Deputy Commissioner, Ramanagara District, situated at **Banandur Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk and District** is bounded on:
East by : Land in Survey No.103/15 & 103/9;
West by : Land in Survey No.103/16;
North by : Land in Survey No.103/18;
South by : Land in Survey No.104;

Item No.3 :
All that piece and parcel of immovable Property being residentially converted land bearing **Survey.No.103/17,** measuring **23 Guntas,** duly converted to non-agricultural residential purpose vide Official Memorandum bearing No:ALN/CR/207/10-11, dated 29.01.2011, passed by the Deputy Commissioner, Ramanagara District, situated at **Banandur Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk and District** is bounded on:
East by : Land in Survey No.103/16;
West by : Land in Survey No.103/22;
North by : Land in Survey No.103/18;
South by : Land in Survey No.104;

H. UMASHANKAR, Advocate
No. 8, 80ft Road,Chandra Layout
Bengaluru-40.
Bengaluru Date : 24-07-2021

$612.73 bn — India's total foreign exchange reserves in the week ended July 16, 2021, which was an all-time hight, according to RBI data

Post-merger, little to cheer for PSBs

Anchor banks see improvement in profitability and NPAs, yet overdue loan book a concern

SESA SEN @New Delhi

REAPING BENEFITS OF SYNERGY

The bank is now reaping the synergy benefits. Since we have achieved this level (of profitability) despite the challenging environment, we expect this to be sustainable unless we are hit by further crisis, says Indian Bank MD & CEO Padmaja Chunduru

POST-MERGER, public sector banks (PSBs) have seen an improvement in profitability in the year ended March 2021 despite the coronavirus pandemic induced disruptions.

In FY21, PSBs reported a combined net profit for the first time in five years. Only two of the 12 public sector banks — Punjab & Sind Bank and Central Bank of India — reported a net loss for the year. The key reason for PSBs to post a combined profit of ₹31,817 crore was the end of their legacy bad loan problem. Other factors include lower cost of funds, reduced operating expenses and higher gains on bond portfolios amid declining bond yields.

Last year, the merging entities posted huge losses in the fourth quarter before the integration, which contributed to the ₹26,015-crore loss among public sector banks in FY20. This year, however, the acquiring banks made profits with Indian Bank topping the list at ₹3,004 crore followed by Union Bank at ₹2,905 crore.

The pandemic year 2020-21 has seen most PSBs remain preoccupied with the merger integration process. The bad loan cycle that involved large corporate loans during FY16-FY19 manifested mostly on PSB balance sheets. Many lenders saw their capital erode below the mandated regulatory minimum when mergers among PSBs were seen as the only way out. The amalgamation of these banks came into effect from April 1, 2020.

While the benefits of the merger could be measured in figures related to profitability, the human impact of the big bang bank merger is huge and cannot be measured by financial numbers. That apart, state-owned banks continue to lag private peers in terms of mirroring efficiency parameters. Further, anaemic loan growth and spike in stressed loans amid an unprecedented health crisis as well as inept digital abilities has been a drag on PSBs' overall performance.

Having done two rounds of bank consolidation earlier, the central government in 2019 decided to merge six disparate and weak PSBs into four in one stroke — the biggest consolidation exercise in the banking space. Punjab National Bank (PNB) took over Oriental Bank of Commerce and United Bank of India; Allahabad Bank became part of Indian Bank; Canara Bank subsumed Syndicate Bank; and Andhra Bank and Corporation Bank merged with Union Bank of India. Earlier, State Bank of India (SBI) with five of its associate banks while Vijaya Bank and Dena Bank were merged with Bank of Baroda.

Mergers of banks, first mooted by the Narasimham Committee more than a quarter century ago, began in India in the 1960s in order to bail out the weaker banks and protect the customer interests. In the post liberalisation period the quest to create an Indian bank that would be in the league of global giants had been continuing since 1990.

"After successfully completing the amalgamation during the previous year, the bank is now reaping the synergy benefits. Since we have achieved this level (of profitability) despite the challenging environment, we expect this to be sustainable unless we are hit by further crisis," said Indian Bank Managing Director and CEO Padmaja Chunduru.

Credit growth continues to remain steady at lower levels of 3-4% year-on-year growth for PSBs, however with better asset quality and profitability position, most of the public banks are well placed to support the growth if the credit growth improves. Notwithstanding, the improvement in the reported gross non-performing assets (NPA) (9.4% as on March 2021 from 10.7% as on March 2020) and net NPA (3.1% vs 3.8%) in FY21, the overdue loan book across banks remains high.

Anil Gupta, vice-president, sector head - Financial Sector Ratings, ICRA, says a merger could drive elimination of redundancies with many PSBs having branches and other infrastructure which can be rationalised. "While these could be immediate cost benefits, the long-term benefits will arise from better synergies created out of a lesser number of lenders to a large borrower. We saw in the previous asset quality cycle, that because of the presence of a large number of lenders to a corporate borrower, the pace of decision making was impacted resulting in delayed resolutions and recoveries, which lead to higher losses," he added.

Going ahead, there are underlying concerns, which if not addressed could result in larger and potentially weaker banks.

For instance, Gupta says: "With incremental growth from the corporate sector staying low, and retail being the key engine for credit growth, PSBs will need to keep enhancing their lending abilities and improve turnaround time by digitally sanctioning the loans by enhancing their customer profiling through online tools. When the corporate credit cycle rebounds over the medium term, the ability of the banks to implement sufficient risk filters in credit selection and incorporate the learnings from the previous credit cycle while sanctioning new loans to corporates is something which remains to be seen."

NEXT GEN BANKS

Merged entity	Total Assets (in Rs. lakh cr)	Gross NPA (in %)	No. of branches	Employees	Advances (in Rs.Cr)	Deposits (in Rs. Cr)
PNB+OBC+United Bank	12.7	14	10,769	1,01,802	6,74,230	11,06,332
Canara+ Syndicate	11.54	9	10,416	88,213	6,39,048	10,10,874
Union+ Corporation+ Andhra	10.71	14	9,315	78,202	5,90,982	9,23,805
Indian Bank+ Allahabad bank	6.26	10	6,007	41,629	3,64,010	5,38,071

12 PSUS: SIX MERGED AND SIX INDEPENDENT

MERGED BANKS
- SBI
- Bank of Baroda
- Canara Bank
- Indian Bank
- Punjab National Bank
- Union Bank of India

ALL FIGURES AS ON MARCH 31, 2021

INDEPENDENT BANKS
- UCO Bank
- Indian Overseas
- Punjab and Sind
- Bank of Maharashtra
- Central Bank of India
- Bank of India

ILLUSTRATION: AMIT BANDRE

NEWSCOPE

IS THE ZOMATO IPO EUPHORIA SUSTAINABLE?

GURBIR SINGH

THERE is a big buzz about the Zomato IPO. The online food delivery service has caught the investors' eye and the ₹9,375 crore offer has seen over-subscription 38.24 times. The big qualified institutional investors bid nearly 52 times; and even the smallest retail segment was over-subscribed 7.45 times. The share listed on Friday opening at ₹116, a 53% premium over the issue price of ₹76.

There is euphoria because of its sheer size - after all, Zomato is the second largest IPO after Coal India's stake sale in October 2010. Does it now herald another 'digital' round as Paytm, Flipkart and Ola queue up to make their IPO debuts. The obvious 'success' trigger is the nature of the business — the immense possibilities of online food delivery at a time when consumer options have been frozen by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Zomato IPO is all about a blind belief in the 'digital' future. The company has never hidden the fact it has never made a profit; in fact it has said in its offer document it will continue to invest, and so losses might continue to grow. Zomato's pre-IPO financials are nothing to crow about. Revenue dropped 23% to ₹1,994 crore for FY 2021 and it made a loss of ₹812 crore.

Scale of business

Yet investors believe, with the scale it has achieved, Zomato has set itself on a course of success. It is present in 525 cities and 23 countries outside India; it has 1.7 lakh delivery partners, it has an active list of 1.5 lakh restaurants it delivers from, and its app is used by 41.5 million customers. And the big thing Zomato has running in its favour is its monopoly; or duopoly to be precise, with Swiggy.

But belief in the 'digital' future is not enough. The question is: are these business formats sustainable in the long term? There is little data supporting the current market optimism, except iffy predictions by investment bankers that food delivery could become a $8-billion business in 2-3 years. But what if the pandemic vanishes, and malls and eateries open up? Or if people get fed up of ordering in?

Sample the case of Policybazaar.com. Here's a business model that seeks to make money from providing customers a hub of comparative insurance products. It claims to process 25% of all term policies on behalf of insurers; but break it down, and it is a fairly niche business. It has also made a loss of ₹213 crore and ₹218 crore, two years running. Yet Policybazaar is in the market with an IPO to raise ₹6,500 crore; and it is seeking a valuation of $4-5 billion.

The game is in the offer for sale (OFS), wherein the company raises funds by allowing existing investors to exit. It sounds almost like a Ponzi scheme. One set of investors exit, to be replaced by another, and another at each round of funding. Each set makes money irrespective of whether the company is in the black or not. The hitch is: the last set of suckers could be left stranded.

International flops

As more tech start-ups line up to raise funds from the market, it appears investors have not learnt from some of the big over-valuation flops of the past. WeWork, an office rental start-up with an international footprint and a dynamic co-working business plan, fell quickly from grace as investors realised it was over-valued. From an initial valuation of $47 billion in August 2019, it halved its target and ultimately could not get support for its IPO even at $12 billion. Saddled with debt, the company removed its CEO Adam Neumann, and delayed its IPO indefinitely.

Uber's IPO and listing in the US followed almost an identical path, except it did not collapse. The amazing business model of ride hailing, which does away with people having to own cars, was pitched by Morgan Stanley and Goldman Sachs to an astronomical valuation of $120 billion. It did not sustain. Nine months later by May 2019, when Uber finally listed, it had dropped to about half that figure, listing at $45, with a valuation of about $69 billion.

Today, Uber is hovering around $47, which means the big investors like SoftBank of Japan, which pushed Uber and other tech stocks, have had a hard landing.

Some tech companies learnt the hard way, and some came out winners. DoorDash, US' version of Zomato, also got its timing right, listing last December when people were still staying indoors. Kicking off at an awesome valuation of $38 billion, in 6 months its valuation has appreciated 35% to $92 billion; but its stock has not performed too well, trailing its listing price of $189.

The takeaways are investment bankers are struggling to value loss-making technology start-ups, and the right valuation is often anybody's guess. Growth at any cost, as we have also learnt, cannot be a sustainable model. For start-ups, a bright idea must not only be a workable business, but it should be a constantly adapting enterprise to meet competition and sustain growth. Many of the big ideas like Uber are currently struggling because of their inability to take on competition from newer players.

In India, it will be interesting to see the trajectory Zomato and the rest will take.

EXPRESS READ

ICICI Bank net zooms 52% to ` 4,747.42 cr

Mumbai: ICICI Bank on Saturday reported a 52% jump in its June quarter consolidated net profit at `4,747.42 crore. On a standalone basis, the second largest private sector lender by assets reported a net profit of `4,616.02 crore for the reporting quarter, up by 77% when compared with the lockdown-hit April-June period of FY'21. The total income for the bank, however, fell to `24,379 cr, from `26,067 cr a year ago.

ITC Q1 profit rises by 30% to ` 3,343.44 cr

New Delhi: ITC Ltd on Saturday reported a 30.24% increase in its consolidated net profit to `3,343.44 cr for the first quarter ended on June 30. The company had posted a net profit of `2,567.07 cr during the April-June quarter of the previous fiscal, ITC said. Its revenue from operations was up 35.91% to `14,240.76 cr during the quarter under review, as against `10,478.46 cr in the same period of previous fiscal.

EXCLUSIVE

'Turnaround of overseas ops helped JSW Steel post strong Q1 numbers'

DIPAK MONDAL @New Delhi

High prices help exports

According to Joint MD & Group CFO MVS Seshagiri Rao, exports realisation was strong due to high steel prices as exports accounted for 35% of the sales in the first quarter compared to 25% in the previous quarter

BETTER exports realisation, turnaround of overseas operations and strong contributions from two new acquisitions helped JSW Steel post strong numbers in the first quarter of the current financial year, the company's joint managing director and group CFO MVS Seshagiri Rao told the New Indian Express.

Despite a challenging first quarter, the country's largest steel manufacturer produced 4.1 million tonne steel during the quarter, which was only 2% lower than the previous quarter. Though sales volume at 3.475 million tonne was lower by 13% during the quarter.

"We usually sell 3.8-4 million tonne in the first quarter," says Sheshgiri Rao.

The company reported total consolidated income of ₹29,100 crore in the first quarter of 2021-22, showing a 144% jump year-on-year, largely due to higher steel prices. It registered highest ever quarterly revenue from operations of ₹28,902 crores and highest ever operating EBITDA of ₹10,274 crores, with an EBITDA margin of 35.5%.

"Despite challenges, what has contributed to good operating profit is turnaround of our overseas operations in the last quarter. In the previous quarter our overseas operations reported a loss of ₹322 crore, but this quarter they reported a profit of ₹282 crore. So almost ₹600 crore has been contributed by our overseas entity to the overall profitability," said the joint MD. Indian subsidiary also posted strong numbers as EBITDA went up to ₹1,145 crore in the April-June quarter against ₹821 crore in the previous quarter.

Its two acquisitions — Bhushan Power and Steel and Monnet Ispat — also did well during the quarter and contributed to ₹323 crore to JSW Steel's bottom line.

Bhushan Power and Steel and Monnet Ispat were acquired by JSW Steel through insolvency and bankruptcy process.

Rao said that exports realisation was strong during the quarter helped by high steel prices as exports accounted for 35% of the sales in the first quarter compared to 25% in the previous quarter.

On sustainability of current steel prices, which have increased anywhere between 30-75% across different global markets, Rao said that commodity prices especially steel would be supported in the long-term by investment in energy transition (from non-renewable to renewable) by big corporation to adhere to their ESG goals and huge spending by governments across the world in under-invested infrastructure set up.

He says that the capital expenditure required for energy transition goals is $2 trillion per annum till 2050.

According to Rao, while the last commodity cycle was mostly driven by oil and gold prices, this time around metals, especially steel, will do well. In the last one and a half years, iron ore and coking coal have not moved the way steel prices have moved.

Maserati gears up to tap Indian market with fleet of sports cars & hybrid SUVs

ARSHAD KHAN @New Delhi

LUXURY carmaker Maserati is bullish on the Indian market and is gearing up to launch around half a dozen new models that ranges from sports cars to SUVs. The carmaker is expected to launch its first super sports car- MC20 -in Q1 2022.

MC20 will be the first Maserati model to exploit the new in-house developed V6 engine – Nettuno. The 3.0-litre twin-turbo V6 develops 630hp and 730Nm. Maserati claims that MC20 can reach 0-100kph in 2.9 seconds.

"Furthermore, there is the launch of Trofeo range of Levante & Quattroporte, which is a big focus for us in the Indian market. Armoured with one of the most powerful engines ever fitted in a Maserati, it is built around a V8 engine and the Levante is one of the fastest SUVs ever built, boasting a top speed of 304 km/h. India launch is expected in Q3 2021," Bojan Jankulovski, Asia Pacific Head, Maserati, told TNIE.

The marquee Italian brand is also expected to launch its Levante hybrid SUV in Q4 2021. The SUV combines 4-cylinder, 2-litre engine with a 48-volt hybrid system to recover energy during deceleration and braking.

What's more exciting is that there is a new Maserati SUV on the card which is destined to play a key role for the brand.

Tier II cities drive demand

The growth in demand for super luxury cars can majorly be attributed to the expansion of the elite class in Tier II cities, beyond Mumbai and Delhi, says Bojan Jankulovski, Asia Pacific Head, Maserati

Then there is also the New GranTurismo and GranCabrio that will herald the full electrification era for Maserati. India launch of these three models is yet to be announced.

Without sharing sales numbers, Jankulovski said there has been a sizeable surge in demand in India for Maserati in the first six months of 2021 and the company is expecting a very strong 2021 vis-a-vis 2020 & 2019.

"The growth in demand for super luxury cars can majorly be attributed to the expansion of the elite class in Tier II cities, beyond Mumbai and Delhi. Smaller cities like Mangalore, Jaipur, Chandigarh, Ahmedabad, Goa, among others, have shown an increase in demand for luxury vehicles. These emerging markets are driven by the evolved customer base coupled with higher disposable incomes. Due to this, Maserati is seeing a hike in demand in smaller cities," said the Asia Pacific head, adding that the company has robust plans to expand, but a concrete strategy will be finalised for the same in coming months.

Talking about the super luxury SUV segment that has seen launches from brands such as Lamborghini (Urus), Rolls-Royce (Cullinan) and Bentley (Bentayga), Jankulovski said that it is likely to pick up even further. For Maserati India, substantial sales come from Levante (priced ₹1.50 cr) and 15% of these sales come from women buyers, added Jankulovski.

Tax evasion of ₹900 cr in two media houses: I-T dept

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

TWO days after the controversial raids at the offices of Dainik Bhaskar and Bharat Samachar, the income tax department on Saturday said it has detected tax evasion to the tune of ₹900 crore during the search operations at the two media houses.

"The quantum of income escapement using this modus operandi, detected so far, amounts to ₹700 crore spread over a period of six years. The quantum may be more as the group has used multiple layers and investigations are being carried out to unravel the entire money trail," the department said, obliquely referring to the Dainik Bhaskar group.

The statement mentioned searches at 20 residential and 12 business premises spread over nine cities including Mumbai, Delhi, Bhopal, Indore, Noida and Ahmedabad. "The listed media company does barter deals for advertisement revenues, whereby immovable properties are received in lieu of actual payments. Evidences have been found indicating cash receipts in respect of subsequent sale of such properties. This is under further examination," the I-T department said, without taking names. It is to be noted that Dainik Bhaskar is owned by DB Corp, a listed company.

The tax department also said it has detected cyclical trading and transfer of funds among group companies engaged in unrelated businesses to the tune of ₹2,200 crore, indirectly referring to the Bhaskar group. In a separate statement, it listed out the details of the raid conducted at Lucknow-based Bharat Samachar. Without taking the name of the company, the I-T department said it conducted search operation on July 22 on a group in Uttar Pradesh dealing in mining, hospitality, news media, liquor and real estate.

Confirming the search in Lucknow, Basti, Varanasi, Jaunpur and Kolkata, office, it claimed, "Cash of more than ₹3 crore has been seized and 16 lockers have been placed under restraint." It has also accused the company of money laundering and tax evasion. "Evidence found during searches establishes that the group has been earning huge outside-the-books income through mining, processing and sales in liquor, flour business, real estate etc. Unaccounted income emanating out of these transactions has been found exceeding ₹90 crore as per preliminary estimates. This income has been brought back into the books through a network of shell companies and other bogus entities without paying any taxes," the statement said.

THE NEW SUNDAY EXPRESS

BENGALURU
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TOKYO 2020

Quiet the Gomez

I think we had a good second and third quarter but we struggled a little bit in the first and fourth quarter. At the end of the day, we haven't played for 3-4 months in int'l competitions
– Graham Reid, Men's Hockey Coach

ON HOT WEATHER IN TOKYO

I don't understand why they don't start matches at say 3 PM in tennis. They (could) make life much easier for all of us. I just don't understand why they don't move it. I doubt they will change the decision - Novak Djokovic

RECOGNITION, RESIGNATION, REDEMPTION

MIRABAI CHANU WAS AMONG THE FAVOURITES AND SHE DELIVERED. A FEW THINGS ABOUT HER

2014 GLASGOW	2016 RIO	2016-17	2017 ANAHEIM	2021 TASHKENT	2020 US TRIP	2019-20	2019 PATTAYA	2018 GOLD COAST
SILVER	Fails to complete a single lift in clean & jerk	Fought depression coming from Rio failure	GOLD	BRONZE	In US for recovery	Out with back injury mostly	FOURTH	GOLD
Commonwealth Games			World Championships	Asian Championships			World Championship	Commonwealth Games

PIZZA PARTY AFTER MEDAL

IN her long-standing quest for a medal in the Olympics, Mirabai Chanu had to forego her favourite food items and follow a strict diet for almost five years. With the Tokyo Games silver now in her pocket, the weightlifter on Saturday now has the freedom to indulge. She said that the first thing she will do is treat herself to pizza, which to date was forbidden for her.

"First, I am going to have a pizza. It has been a long time since I have had one," Mirabai Chanu told a news channel after finishing second in 49kg. "I have waited for this day for a long time, so first I'll have a pizza. It's been two days as well since I have eaten anything, so I'll eat a little extra," said Mirabai.

Even her coach Vijay Sharma, who had been a hard taskmaster so far to ensure his ward stays in the best shape for the Games, is okay with Mirabai's decision. "She hasn't done anything apart from training in the past six years. She can now have whatever she likes," said the coach.

—ENS

LIFTING BILLION HOPES

Separate stints with US-based physio help Mirabai correct her technique and win silver to exorcise demons of 2016 Rio Olympics

FIROZ MIRZA @Chennai

FIVE years ago, India's weightlifter Mirabai Chanu had managed just one clean lift in six attempts in 48kg to crash out of the Rio Olympics. The highly disappointing show had left her inconsolable then, but she made amends on Saturday by clinching 49kg silver at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. The medal, the country's first in weightlifting since the 2000 Sydney Olympics (Karnam Malleswari), also opened India's campaign on a good note on Day 1 of the Games.

The Manipur athlete lifted a total of 202kg (87kg in snatch and 115kg in clean and jerk) to finish behind her Chinese counterpart Hou Zhihui, who lifted 210kg (94kg in snatch and 116kg in C&J). Indonesian Windy Cantika Aisah lifted 194kg (84kg and 110kg C&J) to finish with bronze.

However, Tokyo is just the culmination of the journey which began soon after the Rio debacle. "It was my dream to win an Olympic medal and it came true today. The dream was same in the 2016 Olympics but it was not my day in Rio. I learnt a lot from that failure. I made a lot of changes to my training and technique since that failure. I didn't know what to do but my coach and federation encouraged me to move on and focus on the future events," said Mirabai in a virtual interaction organised by SAI on Saturday.

The Manipuri athlete came back stronger after the Rio disappointment as she won a gold medal each at the Commonwealth Championships and World Championships in 2017. She followed it up with another top finish at the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

It was not that there weren't any road bumps on her way to Olympic glory. A back injury soon after the Gold Coast CWG kept her out for almost 10 months. She returned in 2019 but medals were hard to come by even as she competed at the Asian Championships and the Worlds.

Following that, she created a national record at the National Championships early in 2020 but the lifter, along with the chief coach Vijay Sharma, knew something was amiss. They were racing against time to fix the issue. The coronavirus pandemic gave them a chance to work on that aspect and with approval from TOPS (Target Olympic Podium Scheme), Mirabai and her coach flew down to St Louis in the US to work with renowned physiotherapist Dr Aaron Horschig, a former weightlifter himself.

> *It was my dream to win an Olympic medal. The dream was the same in 2016 but it wasn't my day in Rio. I learned a lot from that failure. I made a lot of changes to my training and technique after that.*
> **Mirabai Chanu, Silver medallist**

"We have to fix a few biomechanical issues. That's why we are consulting Dr Horschig. It's more a technical issue than an injury," coach Sharma had told this daily before the trip.

So what exactly was the problem or to be precise the biomechanical issue the lifter was facing? Dr Horschig concluded that there was an asymmetry in Mirabai's technique, especially during her snatch motion, which coincidentally has been the lifter's Achilles' heel for quite some time.

As per his observation, Mirabai's right shoulder blade was moving out of sync with the left which meant that her arms were not sharing the load equally. The physiotherapist suggested a few exercises to Mirabai so that she could mobilise her rhomboid muscles (a large group of muscles in one's upper back that connect the shoulder blade to the spine) before her workout sessions. This in turn helped the weightlifter to synchronise the upward rotation of the shoulder blades.

The solution worked wonders as Mirabai created a new world record in the clean and jerk discipline by lifting 119kg at the Asian Championships a few months ago. She also won a bronze at the event.

But that was not the end as the duo once again decided to head to the USA to work with Dr Horschig before departing for Tokyo. With the second wave creating havoc in the country and foreign countries putting India in the travel red list, Mirabai was running out of time but the government made sure she did not miss out on the desired trip by making travel arrangements in a couple of days.

"I too was under pressure for some time after the Rio failure. But we changed the training pattern and technique immediately and it started bearing fruit the very next year. We have been working towards this goal for the past five years and we are happy we have achieved our goal," said the elated coach.

STRAIGHT FROM THE CHAMPION

IMPACT OF MEDAL ON WOMEN

This medal I hope will encourage more women from the country to take up the sport of weightlifting. Not many girls take up this sport but I believe this medal will inspire them to take up weightlifting, work hard and shine. I would also like to request parents to allow girls to compete in sports. I request them not to discourage them from taking up sports. Let them come forward, play sports and win laurels for the country.

WILL NOW HAVE MOTHER'S FOOD

I have just been home for five days in the past five years. Now I will go with this medal. I will now go home and eat food made by my mother. Even my mother didn't have anything since morning as she was waiting for my event. I had a chat with her for two minutes. She told me everyone in my village is very happy. I will meet all of them when I go to my village.

Support

I got a lot of support from everyone. I will urge them to keep supporting upcoming players like I have been supported. TOPS supported me a lot.

Childhood dreams

When I started I didn't know about Olympics, but every player has a dream of winning an international medal. Gradually, I learnt how to shine at international level and win medals.

Sacrifices

I sacrificed a lot. I didn't spend a lot of time at my home in the last five years. I maintained a strict diet and didn't have foods of my choice. I stay focussed on my training.

Many many congratulations to @mirabai_chanu on winning India's first medal at #Tokyo2020. Such an inspiring performance that will be remembered for a long time to come and will inspire generations. Well done
Abhinav Bindra

MIRABAI CHANU! The way you have transformed yourself after your injury and clinched a historic silver for #TeamIndia is stupendous.
Sachin Tendulkar

What a wonderful start to #Tokyo2020! Many congratulations to @mirabai_chanu for winning the silver medal in weightlifting.
Rajyavardhan Rathore

You didn't just lift weights and pick a medal there, champion. You lifted a nation that needed to find joy and you did it with the widest smile. Take a bow, @mirabai_chanu
Sunil Chhetri

Congratulations for a beautiful opening on medal tally @mirabai_chanu. This second-place medal is a morale boost for our Indian contingent. Thank you for a spectacular performance.
Bajrang Punia

CHANU'S COACH TO GET RS 10 LAKH

TOKYO: Tokyo Games silver medallist Mirabai Chanu's coach Vijay Sharma will get Rs 10 lakh after his ward's historic feat as the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) on Saturday announced cash rewards for coaches of Olympic medal winners. The coaches of gold medal winners will get Rs 12.5 lakh while those of bronze medallists will be given Rs 7.5 lakh by the IOA.

WOMEN WIN 5 OUT OF LAST 7 MEDALS

Indian women have excelled at international events in recent times and their domination is evident. In fact, out of the last seven medals won at the Summer Games, five have been women (Saina Nehwal, Mary Kom, Sakshi Malik, PV Sindhu and Mirabai Chanu). With the likes of Manu Bhaker and Vinesh Phogat still to come, this number could well swell further in coming days.

MEDALS & POSES AT HOME

Paddy fields to silver

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @Guwahati

SAIKHOM Tombi Devi vividly remembers her then six-year-old daughter Mirabai Chanu insisting on carrying firewood from the nearby jungle to their paddy field in their village on the outskirts of Imphal. Those were the images that flashed in her mind as Mirabai clinched silver medal at the Tokyo Olympics on Saturday.

Since morning, friends and neighbours had started assembling at their house, waiting to see the Manipuri become only the second Indian women to medal in weightlifting at the Olympics. The youngest of six sibilings, Devi recalls how Mirabai has always been the strongest among all. "My children used to go to a nearby jungle to fetch firewood. She would always insist on carrying home the heaviest bundle of firewood. She could lift things which boys, even older than her, could not," Devi says.Growing up, Mirabai didn't even show interest in weightlifting. It was archery, football that dominated her childood days. In fact, she had even persuaded her parents to enroll in archery training at the Khuman Lampak stadium in Imphal. And it is where Mirabai was turned into a weightlifter.

"We took her there but someone suggested she be trained in weightlifting. We don't know what made him say so. She was enrolled for a life in weightlifting and the journey began," the mother says.

It started a journey which would see Mirabai travel around 18km everyday from home to the stadium, fetching a ride on bus or truck or what ever passed through their village.

Honoured that I could inspire Mirabai: Kunjarani

INDRANEEL DAS @Chennai

KUNJARANI Devi, who inspired Mirabai Chanu and hundreds of others in the region to take up the sport, was quite ecstatic on Saturday. She had reason to be as she, too, had coached Mirabai when the 26-year-old was starting her journey in the national camp. The multiple world championships medallist, who missed out on a bronze at the 2004 Athens Olympics, felt Mirabai was primed to win a medal this time. "I am really happy that I could inspire her," she told this daily on Saturday. "I was among the few who started to do weightlifting in Manipur and through hard work managed to inspire some weightlifters from the state. I am happy that it helped Mirbabai also to pursue her dream in the sport and win a medal for the country. I feel very proud of her. She has been my student as well after she started."

Kunjarani was Mirabai's coach during the latter's formative years. "I trained her initially," she said. "I don't want to take any credit or anything but yes I too had some contribution in her formative years and I feel happy."

Kunjarani felt it was not an easy journey at all, especially after the failure in Rio and then training disruptions since last year due to Covid. "It is not easy to get out of such a depressing situation and get out and train during Covid," she said. "After she missed out in Rio, for her to take this silver is one of the greatest achievements in Indian weightlifting history. She has struggled a lot and this is her redemption."

Sport in Manipur is a religion. Kunjarani too thinks sport is the only way they can bring some kind of recognition

to the region. "What do we have? We have nothing but sports to display ourselves to the world. It's sports that give identity to the state."

Though Kunjarani felt the Chinese lifter was a class apart, she thought Mirabai did her best. "There is no issue with Mirabai and the kind of support she has been getting is phenomenal but the Chinese and their training methods are different," she said.

Weightlifting federation president Birendra Prasad Baishya, who is also chef de mission, felt her success was a reflection of India's training and meticulous planning. He felt the Olympic medal was the culmination of quite a journey.

"All stakeholders worked towards the medal," he said. "Sports Authority of India and Target Olympic Podium Scheme had helped her immensely during rehabilitation programme, especially in the United States, and earlier in Mumbai too. We got support from everyone."

Baishya also pointed out that this success shows that Indian coaches are at par with international ones. "Our coach Vijay Sharma has been a success and this shows that even in India we have good coaches," he said. "It's a triumph of our system."

TOKYO TRAIL

Hungary's Szilagyi makes fencing history

Hungary's Aron Szilagyi made Olympic fencing history on Saturday in Tokyo as he took the sabre title for a third time in a row. The 31-year-old defeated Italy's Luigi Samele 15-7 in the final and becomes the first man to win three Olympic golds in the same individual event in the sport.

US swimmer sticks to anti-vax stand

US swimmer Michael Andrew vowed to ignore "haters" critical of his refusal to vaccinate against Covid, saying his sole focus was performing in the pool. Andrew has been outspoken about rejecting Covid-19 jabs, resulting in accusations of putting his own beliefs before the health of his teammates.

TOKYO 2020

Quiet the Games

INDIA WATCH

5:30 AM – Shooting: 10m Air Pistol Women's Qualification – Manu Bhaker and Yashaswini Deswal

6:30 AM – Shooting: Skeet Men's Qualification Day 1 – Mairaj Ahmad Khan and Angad Vir Singh

6:40 AM – Rowing: Lightweight Men's Double Sculls: Repechage Round 2 – Arun Lal Jat and Arvind Singh

7:10 AM – Badminton: Women's Singles Group Stage – PV Sindhu vs Ksenia Polikarpova (Israel)

7:30 AM – Tennis: Women's Doubles First Round – Sania Mirza and Ankita Raina vs Nadiaa Kichenok and Lyudmyla Kichenok (Ukraine)

7:45 AM – Shooting: 10m Air Pistol Women's Final

8:35 AM – Sailing: Women's Laser Radial heats – Nethra Kumanan

9:30 AM – Shooting: 10m Air Rifle Men's Qualification – Deepak Kumar and Divyansh Singh Panwar

9:30 AM – Sailing: Laser Radial Women's Race 2 – Nethra Kumanan

10:30 AM – Table tennis: Men's singles Round 2 – G Sathiyan vs Lam Siu-hang (Hong Kong)

11:05 AM – Sailing: Laser Men's Race 1 – Vishnu Saravanan

12:00 PM – Table tennis: Women's Singles Round 2 – Manika Batra vs Margaryta Pesotska (Ukraine)

12:00 PM – Sailing: Laser Men's Race 2 – Vishnu Saravanan

12:00 PM – Shooting: 10m Air Rifle Men's Final

1:30 PM – Boxing: Women's flyweight round of 32 – MC Mary Kom vs Miguelina Hernandez Garcia (Dominican Republic)

3:00 PM – Hockey – Men vs Australia

3:06 PM – Boxing: Men's lightweight round of 32 – Manish Kaushik vs Luke McCormack (Great Britain)

3:32 PM – Swimming: Women's 100m backstroke heats – Maana Patel

3:47 PM – Swimming: Men's 200m freestyle heats – Sajan Prakash

4:21 PM – Swimming: Men's 100m backstroke heats – Srihari Nataraj

INTERNATIONAL WATCH

ARTISTIC GYMNASTICS
Women's Subdivision 3
11.40 am Simone Biles

BADMINTON
Men's singles Group A
2.30 pm Kento Momota vs Timothy Lam

TENNIS
Women's singles Rd 1
2nd on centre court Naomi Osaka

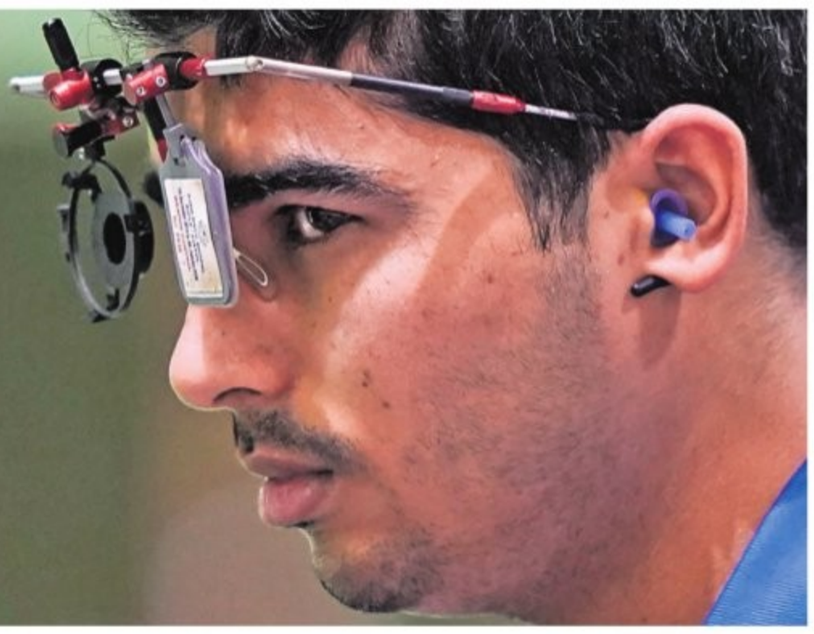
SWIMMING
Women's 400m freestyle
4.48 pm Katie Ledecky
4.54 pm Ariarne Titmus

SHOOTING
Women's 10m air pistol
5.30 am Anna Korakaki

Live on Sony Pictures Network

HARD TARGET

After topping the qualification round, Saurabh misses out in final to finish seventh in 10m air pistol; Iran's Foroughi takes gold ahead of Serbian Mikec



ANMOL GURUNG @ Chennai

SAURABH Chaudhary did what Saurabh Chaudhary usually does. Going by the magical numbers — a perfect compilation of 100 in one of the six-part series in the men's 10m air pistol — in the qualifiers and his well-documented reputation, it seemed like he would go on to bag a medal. In the end, he showed he's only human, making an exit during the business end of the competition.

After a subdued performance by women rifle shooters Apurvi Chandela and Elavenil Valarivan earlier in the day, Saurabh had raised the hopes. But his medal hopes came crashing down soon after returning to the range for the eight-man final. With dreaded scores of 9s in the early part of the opening stage, he found himself battling for survival.

The nerves that had held firm in the past seemed to be betraying him. And understandably so as the 19-year-old was taking part in the Olympics for the first time. With time running out, he tried hard but failed to produce what he is capable of. After managing to survive the first series of the elimination stage, he was out in the next series. During his brief stay in the final, he managed 137.4 to finish seventh. "Obviously he is not happy about it but also not crushed or anything near it. He shot an excellent match and fought back from a poor 1st card. He topped the qualifications," Samaresh Jung, India chief pistol coach, told this daily.

During the qualification stage, Saurabh had put up a commanding show to finish with a tally of 586. The youngster took his time to settle down. After opening with 95 in Stage 1 of the 60-shot qualifiers, the shooter from a nondescript village in Uttar Pradesh's Baghpat district shot 98 each in the next two series. In the fifth series, he went full tilt to return with a maximum score of 100 (a perfect score, especially in big events, is quite uncommon). That had lifted him to the top spot.

"I think Saurabh shot very well. It's the first time we topped the qualification ranking and Saurabh had 28x (perfect) tens as compared to Chinese shooter with same score, who had only 18x tens. That shows the quality of his shooting today (Saturday)," Ronak Pandit, India high performance manager, said.

> **It's the first time we topped the qualification ranking and Saurabh had 28x (perfect) tens as compared to Chinese shooter with same score, who had only 18x tens.**
>
> Ronak Pandit, HP manager

Despite lacking that quality in the final, Ronak is backing Saurabh to learn from this experience and improve further. "Unfortunately in finals, you don't get any time to settle down and that probably cost us the medal. But Saurabh has a great future ahead and with more experience, it can only get better." India could have had two finalists in the event but Abhishek Verma missed out after fluffing his lines at the end.

It was a day to remember for Iran's Javad Foroughi instead. Foroughi, who had won the last two World Cups, took the top prize ahead of Serbia's Damir Mikec. China's Pang Wei took the final spot on the podium.

Elavenil & Apurvi fail to make final cut

In what was India's first shooting event, current World No 1 Elavenil and former World No 1 Apurvi were looking to give India a happy start. However, the duo — who compete in women's 10m air rifle — could not find their range during the qualification round, thereby failing to make the cut for the finals.

After a relatively quiet start, Elavenil showed what she's capable of in the third series of the 60-shot qualifying round with an impressive hit of 106. However, a dreadful score of 9.7 in the fifth series proved to be her undoing. She aggregated 626.5 to finish 16th. Apurvi finished 36th with a tally of 621.9. China's Yang Qian took top honours ahead of Russia's Anastasiia Galashina. Switzerland ace Nina Christen won the bronze medal.

FOCUS ON YASHASWINI, DIVYANSH AND MANU

The Indian shooting team will hope for a better outing in the Tokyo Olympics on Sunday, a day after a disappointing start to its campaign. The onus will be on Manu Bhaker, Yashaswini Singh Deswal in women's 10m air pistol, and the men's 10m air rifle duo of Divyansh Singh Panwar and Deepak Kumar, to ensure that the country achieves success on the second day of competition. The Indian shooting team will make four more attempts at opening its medal count at the Games. Up next, Manu and Yashaswini will line up in the women's 10m air pistol qualifiers in the morning session, while in the afternoon, Deepak and Divyansh will compete in the men's 10m air rifle event. The women will again be looking to break the 580 mark at the bare minimum, to strengthen their claims for a finals spot. The top eight will qualify from the 53-woman field after 60 shots are fired in 75 minutes. The men's 10m air rifle event has attracted 47 participants and will also have a 60-shot qualification round. **PTI**

COURTING CONTROVERSY

(left) Deepika Kumari was unhappy with Archery Association of India's decision to partner her with Pravin Jadhav in mixed event. (right) Manika Batra didn't allow national coach Soumyadeep Roy to sit in her corner on Saturday | PTI

Of mixed reactions and the differences within...

AYANTAN CHOWDHURY @ New Delhi

PRIOR to the Olympics Games, a lot was expected of India's mixed doubles challenge in unheralded sports like archery and table tennis. But on Saturday, both sets of teams not only failed to perform up to expectations, their comments and actions raised unnecessary controversy, something which was not seen in good light by their respective National Sports Federations.

The first controversy of the day was seen after Team India's triumph over Chinese Taipei in the 1/8 qualification round. World No 1 and the lone woman to qualify for the Games, Deepika Kumari expressed her disappointment with her choice of partner. After Friday's qualification, the selection committee decided to go for Pravin Jadhav instead of Atanu Das purely on the basis of performance.

"I'm a little sad Atanu is not with me in the mixed team. It mattered, as I really wanted to play with him but it did not happen," was the 27-year-old's reaction.

Deepika and debutant Jadhav looked scrappy in their first match together against Chinese Taipei and trailed 1-3 before regaining form in the final two sets to storm into the last-eight.

Ultimately, the decision didn't pay off with Jadhav hitting a six in the crucial fourth set to end up succumbing to the top seed Korean duo of An San and Kim Je Deok 2-6. Deepika did not exactly cover herself in glory as she was unable to hit a a single perfect 10 from eight arrows. That the two Korean Olympic debutants, 17-year-old Kim Je Deok and 20-year-old An San won two sets despite scoring only 35 out of a possible 40 showed the inconsistent shooting from India.

Archery Association of India officials did not think her comment was justified. "We were unable to get over the line when it mattered, there are no two ways about it. But to say it was because of Atanu's absence would not be the right thing. What if they had been paired up but still lost? Our selection was based purely on from," a top official said. Sources even indicated that Deepika tried to change the combination but it did not bear fruit.

Noise in table tennis too

The table tennis event and in particular Manika Batra's actions was another bone of contention. Since landing in Tokyo, the Commonwealth Games and Asian Games medallist has been trying to ensure her personal coach Sanmay Paranjape got pitchside access.

And on Saturday, during her singles first round match against 94th-ranked Tin-Tin Ho of Britain, she refused to let national coach Soumyadeep Roy sit in her corner. The World No 62 did mark her match with a 4-0 win but team manager MP Singh, a TTFI advisor, who is in Tokyo said the organisers refused her request to allow Sanmay's entry.

"She tried going through the Chef De Mission but the organisers refused to comply as it is against the Olympic rules. After her request for on court access for her personal coach was denied, she refused to be coached by our national coach. We cannot help but wish her well for the future matches. Hope she does well," he revealed.

The fancied mixed team of A Sharath Kamal and Manika lost 0-4 to third seeds Lin Yun-Ju and Cheng I-Ching of Chinese Taipei in the mixed doubles Round of 16. Roy was seen court-side during that particular contest. The duo did not really practice together back in India when they had the chance.

Sutirtha Mukherjee, on the other hand, made a strong impression on her Olympics debut with a come from behind 4-3 win against 78th-ranked Linda Bergstrom of Sweden. There were apprehensions regarding her ability against a quality chopper but Sutirtha emerged triumphant.

Sutirtha will play Portugal's Fu Yu in the second round while Manika takes on Ukrain's Margaryta Pesotska, who is ranked 32.

Satwik-Chirag duo gets the better of Chinese Taipei

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

WHEN the draw for the badminton doubles tournament was out, India's doubles pairing knew they had a fight and a half. Paired with the World No 1 and the World No 3 was the rub of the draw going against them. But the duo of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty showed remarkable cojones to battle past the Chinese Taipei combination of Lee Yang and Wang Chi-Lin 21-16, 16-21, 27-25.

This win is so important for them as it eases their pathway into the quarterfinals. How impressive was this win? It was the first time the Chinese Taipei had lost this year (they were on a 15-0 streak coming into Tokyo). However, it doesn't get any easier for the duo whose next match is against the World No 1 pairing of Marcus Gideon and Kevin Sukamuljo.

But it wasn't all smooth sailing for the badminton contingent as B Sai Praneeth went down to Israel's Misha Zilberman. Praneeth struggled for rhythm throughout the contest and the final scoreline of 17-21, 15-21 was a fair reflection. His chances of advancing to the next round is now dependent on other results. If Zilberman gets the better of Mark Caljouw on Monday, then Praneeth's final match against the Dutchman is academic.

In other news, the men's hockey team were served a real fright in the end but kept their wits to beat New Zealand 3-2 in their first match. The Black Sticks managed to get three shots on target in the last few minutes but custodian PR Sreejesh managed to save all of those shots to give India a priceless opening day win. Even if those defensive lapses will worry coach Graham Reid, what would have pleased him is the way their penalty corner variations worked. Harmanpreet Singh managed to score two penalty corner goals, with Rupinder Pal Singh scoring one from the spot. They will need to be spot on in all areas of the pitch as their next opponents are Australia.

The women's team, meanwhile, were downed comprehensively by The Netherlands. The team showed admirable skill to level the match at 1-1, thanks to a rasping drive from skipper Rani Rampal, but the floodgates opened soon after. In the end, the 1-5 scoreline didn't flatter the Dutch.

INDIA ROUND UP

'INJURED' VIKAS BOWS OUT IN THE FIRST ROUND

In boxing, Vikas Krishan was comprehensively beaten in the preliminary round of the men's welter-weight division. Krishan did not know what hit him as his Japanese opponent Sewonrets Quincy Mensah Okazawa was too good for him, combining lightning footwork, solid defensive technique and telling punches. One of them opened a gash on Krishan's forehead and there was no coming back from that. Interestingly, Santiago Nieva, high performance director, said his ward had reinjured himself during the bout. "He reinjured his right shoulder during the first round, he was fighting with one hand. But the Japanese was very good," he told this daily.

Japan's Sewonrets Quincy Mensah Okazawa lands a punch on India's Vikas Krishan during the first round of welter-weight category at Tokyo on Saturday | PTI

Nagal to face Medvedev

Sumit Nagal enhanced his reputation with a fighting three-set win over Asian Games champion Denis Istomin. The 6-4, 6-7 (6), 6-4 verdict was well deserved, especially for someone who didn't know he would be coming to the Olympics till last wee to the Olympics till last week. His path, though, doesn't get easier as Russia's Daniil Medvedev is his second-round opponent.

Rein it in? You've got to be joking

AFP @ Tokyo

AUSTRALIAN dressage rider Mary Hanna — at 66 the oldest competitor at the Tokyo Olympics — says there are more chapters to be added to her biography "A Long Rein" despite a disappointing performance on Saturday. Riding Calanta, Hanna finished sixth in her group of nine riders after posting a score of 67.981 percent, with only the top two from the six groups plus the next best six finishers qualifying for Wednesday's individual final.

In the first action of the equestrian programme, three groups competed on Saturday with the riders in the other three — including Britain's Charlotte Dujardin, who is bidding for a third successive individual gold medal — going through their various "Piaffes" and "Half Passes" on Sunday.

Making up for the lack of a paying crowd at this largely spectator-free Olympics due to the coronavirus restrictions, the horses performed to music including "Girl from Ipanema" and ABC's 1982 hit "Look of Love". Hanna may not have impressed the seven judges gazing out from their individual mini pagodas dotted round the arena but she has overcome far worse reverses in her life.

Her first husband, Danish dressage rider Gert Donvig, who was responsible for introducing Hanna to the sport, was killed in a car crash in 1988. Eight years later Hanna made the first of what is now six Olympic Games appearances — her best individual finish up to this edition was 24th in Atlanta in 1996 and a team placing of fifth in Sydney four years later. "I am aiming for Paris as it is only three years away and unless my body breaks down I am certainly going to be there," she said.

"This may be the latest chapter to add to my book but there are a few more to come."

LOCAL EXPRESS

Mount Joy off to winning start as KSCA season begin

BENGALURU: The KSCA Group I – I Division League matches marked the start of the new season here on Saturday. Mount Joy Cricket Club started off on a winning note, beating Chintamani Sports Association by 145 runs. Aditya Somanna (106n.o) scored an unbeaten ton to help Mount Joy score 279/5 in 50 overs. In reply, Chintamani were all out for 134. Most of the other matches were affected by rain.

Anas scores brace in Freedom's win

BENGALURU: Mohammed Anas scored a brace to help Freedom FC beat GRK Football Youth Club 3-0 in the KSFA-BDFA 'C' division knock-out football on Saturday. Besides Anas, Raju scored a goal as well. In one of the other matches, Ezen FC defeated Victoria FC 1-0.

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